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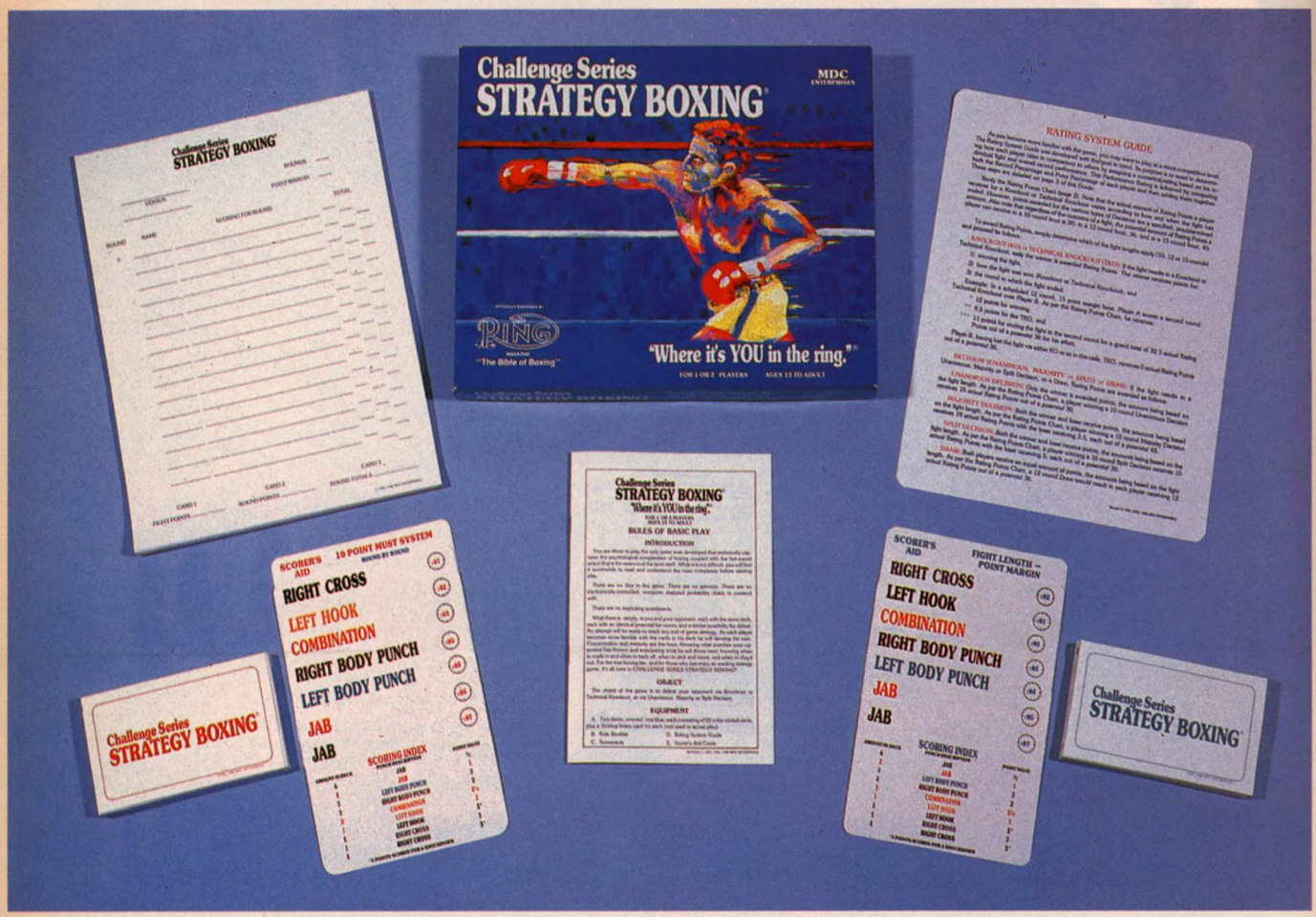

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The RING

The bible of boxing

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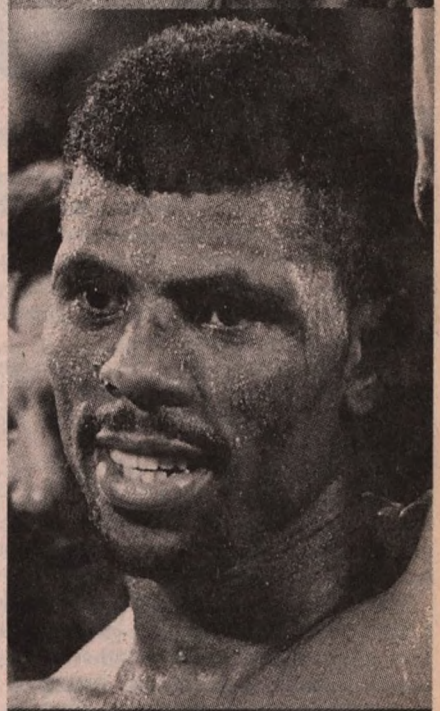

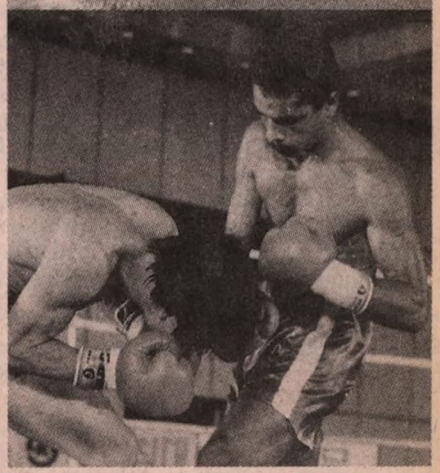

RING SIDE

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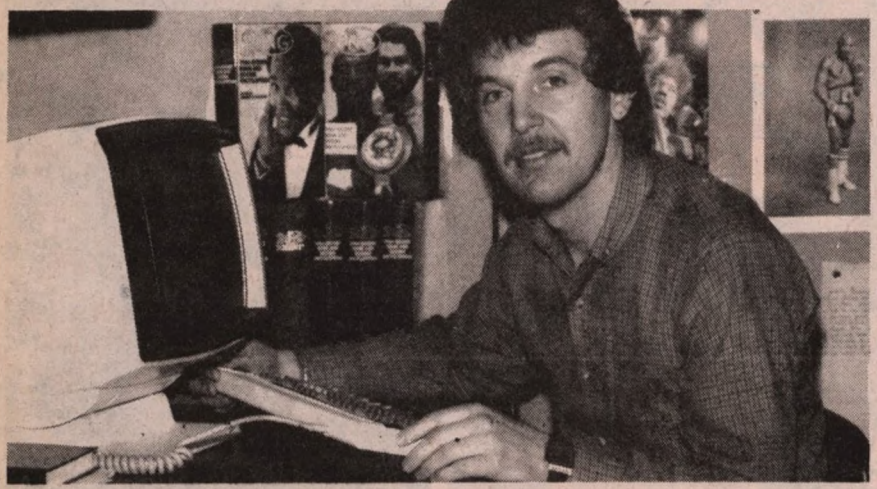

The shocking news that Jorge Vaca had upset Lloyd Honeyghan for the world welterweight title came flashing across the Atlantic Ocean just as we prepared to put this issue to bed (full report next month).

It's always a surprise when an undefeated world champion is beaten, but the circumstances of Honeyghan's downfall make it even more of a mind-blower. Vaca was declared unfit to continue by ringside doctor Gerry Carp following a clash of heads during the eighth round.

Under WBC rules, the scorecards for the first seven rounds were tallied and Vaca declared the winner when judges Chuck Hassett and Bob Logist had Jorge leading 67-65 and 67-66, respectively. The third judge, Malcolm Butler, scored 67-65 in favor of Honeyghan.

I've never liked the "cut eye" rule, especially in world title bouts. It seems like such an inconclusive way for a world championship to change hands. The Vaca-Honeyghan case is made even more bizarre by the fact Honeyghan lost a point on the official scorecards for the butt which gashed Vaca. Without the penalty, he would have retained the crown on a draw.

While both intentional and unintentional head butts have always plagued boxing, I think the current WBC rule goes a bit too far. Though I don't like to see a boxer gain unfair advantage over another because of a butt, the WBC "cut rule" is a cheap way to back into a world title. Perhaps a better ruling in these situations would be to rule the bout "no contest" and order a rematch.

Even Vaca, who by all accounts was acquitting himself rather well and might have kicked Honeyghan's tail anyway, said he "didn't want to win that way" and offered Honeyghan a rematch.

In another strange twist, Honeyghan was stripped of his IBF portion of the 147-pound title for signing to fight Vaca in the first place and then installed as the group's No. 1 contender.

As much as I lament the circumstances, *The Ring* has no alternative but to recognize the hard-hitting Mexican as world welterweight champion. Fair is fair. Honeyghan agreed to defend the WBC belt under the existing rules and lost accordingly.

Welcome, Señor Vaca, to the ranks of welterweight monarchs. May your reign be more glorious than your coronation.

Nigel Collins

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Come Out Writing

Reader Samuel S. Romanell comes to the defense of IBF lightweight king Vinny Pazienza in this month's "Come Out Writing."

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR the Improvement of Boxing wishes to commend you for the decision to reduce ratings of boxers to the eight traditional weight classes. This, we feel, is a very significant step to mitigate the ratings of the Alphabet Gang. Unfortunately, the importance of a champion has been underminded and the public is confused by having three or four titleholders in each division.

We also feel Home Box Office should continue its eliminations to establish undisputed champions in every weight division.

It is our hope that TV producers will not schedule meaningless bouts, be more selective and maintain interest through justifiable matches.

STEPHEN B. ACUNTO, President
American Association for
the Improvement of Boxing
Mount Vernon, New York

SOMETHING EVERY FAN WANTS TO SEE

IN ALL MY YEARS OF WATCHING BOXing (my favorite sport), the best two men in a division always squared-off in a showdown. We now have two heavyweights who would like to be called champion. One of them, Michael Spinks, was needlessly stripped of his title. It was then given to an almost no-name fighter, Tony Tucker. Now Mike Tyson has that title. He cannot possibly defend it because he also has two other titles. One (the WBC) has 12-round title fights, while the other (WBA) has 15-round title fights.

I think these two men, Spinks and Tyson, should meet. It's something every boxing fan wants to see. I truely believe Tyson's camp doesn't want to

see a bout with Spinks come off. Tyson hasn't shown much in his last few fights. He's slowly walking into a different class of boxing . . . and Spinks is at the "head of the class."

I think I sense a little bit of "aluminum" in "Iron Mike."

JIM HATCHER
Dover, Ohio

VINNY PAZ FAN FIGHTS BACK

I AM WRITING IN REGARDS TO "THE Devil's Dilemma" (*The Ring*, Oct. '87). I feel Vinny Paz is the best lightweight out there. Wes Moon's article was way out of line. Let's look at the Greg Haugen fight for what it was . . . a great fight for both men. But in better health, the "Pazman" will knock out Haugen in less than 10 rounds. Also, Paz will become the only true lightweight champion by beating (Edwin) Rosario and (Jose Luis) Ramirez. Paz has proven he has the guts and determination to go 15 rounds. He's just like Ali. Paz will be the greatest lightweight ever.

SAMUEL S. ROMANELL
Mystic, Conn.

FAREWELL TO THE FIGHTING FIREMAN

A FEW WEEKS AGO GREAT BRITAIN had two world titleholders. That's not many, but at least we had some! Now we only have one (Lloyd Honeyghan). Terry Marsh has been forced to retire from the boxing ring due to a complaint called epilepsey—bad luck for him, us Brits and all boxing fans. In Marsh, we had a super boxer whose thrilling battles against McKenzie, Manley, Kameda and company have given us something to remember. The fighting fireman from Basildon will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered.

SIMON JEANS
Bristol, England

LEONARD OWES ALI AN APOLOGY

WITH 10 SECONDS REMAINING IN the seventh round of the Tyson-Tucker fight, Sugar Ray Leonard took credit for a boxing tactic he blatantly stole from the great Muhammad Ali.

When Tucker wound up a bolo punch, Leonard (in his role as HBO's color commentator) said: "Well, when you do that, and I know from experience because I invented it, you got to be very careful because you are always so susceptible; you are so vulnerable for a . . . (inaudible) punch."

Larry Merchant replied: "Ray, we have to give Muhammad Ali a little credit for that tactic."

To which Leonard answered: "I don't think so, Larry. (pause) Just a little bit."

Leonard should apologize to Ali. Leonard's taunting tactics, hand dropping style, bolo swings and even his shoe tassles were stolen from Ali. The bolo punch Leonard used unsuccessfully against Marvelous Marvin Hagler was made famous by Kid Gavilan. When Ali used this punch, he always gave credit to Gavilan on national television.

Ray, there is a difference between you and great fighters of the past. They fought for the sport as much as for money. You have fought strictly for the money, ducking fighters in their prime and avoiding rematches.

MARK CALDER
Raleigh, NC

Round One

By Phill Marder

THE LAST STRAW

Will this nonsense ever cease?

The last thing boxing needs is another weight class. So what do we get? Two new weight classes!

Actually, the two involved, the strawweights (seriously, folks) and the super middleweights, were brainstorms of the IBF, and now it seems the WBC and WBA, obviously realizing they're missing out on some sanctioning fees, are ready to expand. In fact, the WBC already has its first strawweight champion, **Hiroki Ioka** of Japan.

Of course, the WBC couldn't just adopt mini flyweight, the name used by the IBF to designate fighters lighter than junior or light flyweights, who weigh all of 108 pounds. That would only make a confusing situation somewhat less confusing. No, we have to have strawweights!

Which brings to mind several questions. What type of straw is the WBC referring to? Is it a drinking straw? If so, isn't a drinking straw heavier than a fly? Certainly, a drinking straw must be heavier than a light fly. Or, is it a piece of straw? If so, how big a piece is it? Does a typical piece of straw weigh more or less than a fly? Can one weigh a fly? If so, how does one get the fly to step on a scale?

If you can't see it yet, it's not over. These Alphabet groups will keep adding more weight classes until there's one for every pound. Now suppose Ioka gains two pounds. Then, he's a light flyweight. If he gains another two pounds, he's a real flyweight. He could win a championship in three different weight classes before you could holler, "Weight!" (pun intended).

At least these rocket scientists running these organizations could come up with a decent name for their new weight classes, something snazzy and modern . . . how about the Atomweight division. Then, when they start stripping champions and split the title into smithereens at least they could take credit for splitting the atom.

And speaking of stripping champions, the WBC was already wondering aloud whether or not to strip **Mike Tyson** for fighting **Larry Holmes**. Oh, they didn't. But don't you see it coming?

Before Tyson whipped **Tyrell Biggs,** all three groups managed to find a reason to rank Biggs No. 1, though only heaven knows what the reason was. The IBF had **Trevor Berbick** ranked No. 2, while the WBA had **Frank Bruno** No. 2 and the WBC had **Pinklon Thomas** No. 2. Already, off his magnificent win over **Joe Bugner,** Bruno has been named the BC's top contender. With Biggs out of the way, Berbick and Thomas could also move up. That means Tyson could face mandatory defenses against Bruno, Berbick and Thomas in upcoming months.

Do you want to see those fights? Does Tyson?

And this is just what they're going to do to the heavyweight division. Remember, they stripped **Marvin Hagler** when he wanted to fight **Sugar Ray Leonard.** Do you think Tyson is immune? It's going to get much worse until the media and the public take a stand. Think about it.

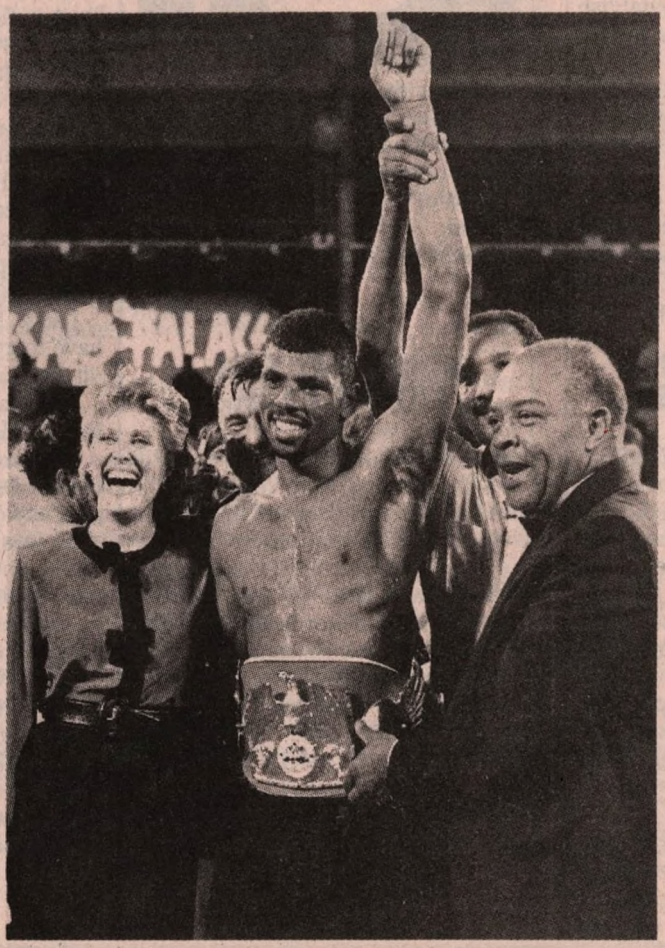


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

MORE BOGUS HYPE

It was bad enough listening to all the baloney about **Thomas Hearns** trying to become the first ever to win "world championships" in four different weight classes. Now we have to listen and read about **Tim Witherspoon** trying to match **Muhammad Ali's** record of winning the world heavyweight championship three times. Be serious.

PEACOCK DIVISION

According to the **Nielsen** ratings, not to be confused with the WBC, WBA, IBF, WAA, UBA, Continental American or Nebraska ratings, **NBC** was the top network for afternoon boxing telecasts through October.

Of the top 10 afternoon shows, NBC had six, earning an average 5.0 rating and a 14 share for the 10 shows it televised. Of 117 rounds scheduled, 106 were com-

Frank Tate wasn't the only winner following his match with Michael Olajide for the vacant IBF middleweight crown. NBC-TV, which televised the bout, drew the second highest Nielsen rating for afternoon boxing through October with this battle of unbeatens. See "Peacock Division" for details.

Round One

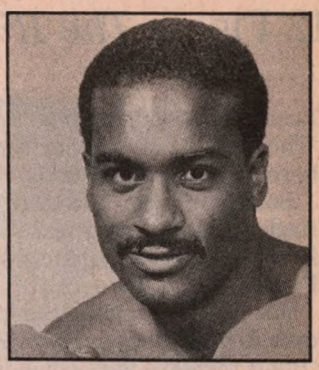
pleted, an average of 11 rounds per match. **ABC** had 15 bouts, drawing a 4.4 rating and a 13 share, while **CBS**, with 10 fights, scored a 3.9 rating and an 11 share.

ABC did, however, come up with the top-rated bout, that being the Thomas Hearns-Dennis Andries match, which earned a 6.7 rating and an 18 share. Following were Frank Tate/Michael Olajide and Rock Lockridge/Barry Michael, both on NBC, Evander Holyfield/Henry Tillman on ABC, Vinny Pazienza/Greg Haugen and Frankie Warren/Gene Hatcher, both on NBC, Pernell Whitaker/Roger Mayweather on ABC, Olajide/Troy Darrell on NBC, Donald Curry/Carlos Santos on CBS and Olajide/Don Lee on NBC.

Roberto Duran, who hopes to challenge Frank Tate for the IBF middleweight title, relaxes with his conga drums during a lull in training.

ROSIN DUST

Werewolf, **Sugar Ray Leonard's** golden retriever, vanished. The dog was a gift from Caesars Palace, which had previously given Leonard another dog, which Ray named Caesar. He disappeared, too. For their sake, let's hope the fighters Leonard now manages don't turn out to be dogs. And let's hope Ray never decides to open a kennel ... Former WBA junior heavyweight titleholder **Ossie Ocasio** pleaded guilty to two counts of weapons law violations in Puerto Rico. Ocasio faced a possible year in jail ... Former heavyweight contender **Jerry Quarry** was arrested and investigated for public drunkenness in California, but was released without charges being filed. Jerry was probably driven to drink thinking how easy it would be to win a title today ... Patty McGynn's, a new Irish restaurant, opened on the site of **Gerry Cooney's** former restaurant. Guess Cooney was too busy fighting to run the place ... *The Ring's* Massachusetts correspondent Jay Miller reports that **Robbie Sims** has virtually disappeared. Draw your own conclusions ... **BAD,** Boxers Against Drugs, not Michael Jackson,



Former WBA junior heavyweight boss Ossie "Jaws" Ocasio may be headed for a spell in the slammer following weapons law violation in Puerto Rico.

held a testimonial dinner for **Ken Norton** in November in San Diego. The $75-a-plate price tag goes toward the organization's war on drugs ... **Patsy Perroni,** a member of the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame, passed away at age 75. Perroni went the distance with **Joe Louis** two years before Louis became world heavyweight champion. He also appeared in several movies, including "The Crowd Roars," which starred **Robert Taylor,** and "Never Love A Stranger," with **John Drew Barrymore,** and a Broadway play, "Diamond Lil," which starred **Mae West** ... Jersey Joe Walcott fell off an Atlantic City stage after the Biggs/Tyson fight, but escaped with a cut forehead. The former world heavyweight champ is 73.

PUNCH LINES

World heavyweight champ **Michael Spinks,** commenting on Tyson, said, "It's easy to say you can kick the butt of any heavyweight in the world when you are picking the butt you want to kick."

Michael didn't say that when he picked Cooney's butt over **Tony Tucker's,** though. □

12 Fights *The Ring* would like to see in 1988.

Each year it comes along ... "The Fight of the Century," "The Fight of the Decade." Some promoters are not beyond hawking a bout as "The Greatest of All-Time."

Some come close to matching the billing, Marvin Hagler's bouts with Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns and Muhammad Ali's classic trilogy with Joe Frazier, for instance.

For most, the hype exceeds the fight ... Hagler's win over Roberto Duran and Mike Tyson's waltz with "Bonecrusher" Smith come immediately to mind.

It has been that way since the beginning of boxing, and it will be that way as long as the sport is with us. And what boxing fan hasn't played promoter? What boxing fan hasn't yearned for a certain match, sure that it would be at the very least "The Fight of the Year?"

We at *The Ring* are no different. We're fans, too. There are certain fights we'd like to see. And we're sure each would be a candidate for "Greatest Fight Ever Between Human Beings on the Planet Earth."

In some cases, our yearning is fueled by a desire to fill world championship vacancies in certain divisions. In others, curiosity is the driving force. But each is a case of matching the world's best fighters against each other, which usually means a great fight is in store.

These are the fights *The Ring* staff would love to see in 1988. Although predictions are made, the chief factor that makes a fight intriguing is that each warrior has an equal chance at victory. Therefore, we refuse to be held accountable and reserve the right to change our opinions up until the opening bell.

You may have certain fights you want to see in 1988. Check ours. If yours is missing, drop us a line. And don't forget your predictions. You, too, have the chance to make a fool of yourself in print.

THE DESIRED DOZEN

MICHAEL SPINKS vs. MIKE TYSON

WHILE MANY PRINT AND TELEVISION journalists continue to describe Mike Tyson as "undisputed heavyweight champion," the fact remains that Michael Spinks holds the legitimate claim to the crown Tyson so covets. Only when Spinks and Tyson tangle will there be an "undisputed" heavyweight champion, and that alone qualifies this match as one of the "must fights" for 1988.

But this match has more than just that factor going for it. Any meeting between unbeatens is attractive, and Spinks is perfect in 31 starts, while Tyson has been flawless in 32. Can either be beaten? No one is sure, but if anyone around is capable of beating Tyson, it's Spinks. And if anyone around is capable of beating Spinks, it's Tyson. Certainly, the management of each will have a difficult time selling any other opponent as a bona fide threat. Will people pay to see either Tyson or Spinks beat up on the likes of Frank Bruno or Francesco Damiani? Hardly. Will they pay to see Spinks go against Tyson? Get your calculators out. Only one other heavyweight, Evander Holyfield, looms as a gate attraction, and Holyfield remains down the line for the winner.

If the axiom that styles make fights is true, then Spinks vs. Tyson is the perfect pairing. Spinks, at 6-2, is tall and lanky and is equally as effective attacking as he is countering. One of the ring's smartest warriors, Spinks is expert at exposing and taking advantage of his opponent's flaws. Against Gerry Cooney, Spinks flashed the strongest jab seen on a heavyweight since Sonny Liston. And, there's no questioning the power in his right.

Tyson, at 5-11, is the steamroller, forever pressing forward. What sets "Iron Mike" apart from others with a similar style is not his power, which is devastating, but his hand speed, which catches foes by surprise. In recent fights, Tyson has seemingly tried to alienate fans by hitting low, hitting on the break and hitting after the bell. He's also illustrated ample use of the elbow.

Thus, you have Tyson coming forward as always, searching for a home for his powerful body shots and quick combos, with Spinks trying to keep him off with the jab while he waits for openings for his combinations and overhand rights. If Tyson continues his recent trend of fighting dirty by hitting on the break, after the bell and with his elbows, Spinks, criticized by many foes as being a dirty fighter, will surely retaliate with same.

It's unlikely Spinks can avoid Tyson for 15 rounds as he did Dwight Muhammad Qawi in unifying the light heavyweight crown. Sooner or later, the two figure to get into a slugout. Can Tyson stand up to Spinks' power? No one has really tested his ability to take it. Can Spinks hold together under a Tyson onslaught? Maybe, maybe not.

One factor looms large in Tyson's

Mike Tyson (pictured here with Don King) may rule the Alphabet Boys' heavyweight kingdom, but he still has to beat Michael Spinks if he wants to be called an "undisputed" champion. A Tyson-Spinks bout is No. 1 on all boxing fans' lists of fights they'd like to see in '88.

favor. Spinks is a bleeder, Tyson has never been cut.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—I wish I could see Tyson-Holmes before I make my pick, but that's the magazine business. Anyway, if it happens in '88, I see a memorable battle with Tyson winning a decision close enough to set up a rematch.

Phill Marder—This is one fight I wouldn't bet a dime on. I can envision Spinks flattening Tyson and I can just as easily see Tyson flattening Spinks. Unfortunately, my gut feeling is that the outcome will be inconclusive, Tyson winning by a TKO on cuts around the sixth round.

EVANDER HOLYFIELD vs. TONY TUCKER

SOONER OR LATER, PROBABLY EARLY next year, Evander Holyfield will be fighting for the heavyweight championship. Barring an upset, that is.

But before the undefeated 1984 Olympic bronze medalist goes after Michael Spinks or Mike Tyson, or whoever holds the heavyweight crown at that time, he probably should engage himself in a test or two against one of the top contenders to get the feel for banging on guys bigger than Dwight Muhammad Qawi.

Tony Tucker fills the bill perfectly. Tucker needs to establish his credentials, too. Though undefeated and ranked No. 1 by the IBF at the time of his title-winning effort against James Douglas, Tucker really hadn't beaten anyone worthy of gaining him a top 10 ranking, let alone a No. 1. The biggest names on his record then were James Broad, Eddie Richardson and Jimmy Young. The biggest name on his record now is Douglas, except for Tyson, and, of course, Tyson beat him.

So Holyfield has to prove himself against a top contender and Tucker does, too. Why not match them up?

The results should be interesting. Holyfield would be expected to take the action to Tucker, who would try to use his advantages in height and reach to outbox his shorter foe. Holyfield has demonstrated the ability to take a good

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Tony Tucker (left) spears Mike Tyson with a left jab during their rumble for the vacant IBF heavyweight crown. A match between Tucker and Evander Holyfield would go a long way towards establishing a leading contender for the heavyweight title.

shot, and Tucker left no questions concerning his chin in his struggle with Tyson.

Look for a brisk encounter with plenty of smart boxing and sharp exchanges.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Off his showing against Tyson, Tucker appears to be an above average heavy by today's standards. However, Holyfield has the makings of a truly great fighter. I think he'd outpoint Tucker over 10, but probably stop him if their bout was scheduled for 12 or more.

Phill Marder—On the surface, this appears to have the makings of an excellent match and could be Holyfield's toughest test to date. That is, if you judge Tucker by his performance against Tyson. However, I can't stop remembering that Buster Douglas was giving Tucker all he could handle for nine rounds before Tucker finally stopped him. Holyfield by KO.

PERNELL WHITAKER vs. MELDRICK TAYLOR

WHAT A CLASSIC THIS COULD BE!

Two undefeated young fighters, Taylor, the 1984 Olympic featherweight champion, and Whitaker, the 1984 Olympic lightweight champion, going at it. Sad to say, since both are handled by the Duva family, it'll probably never happen.

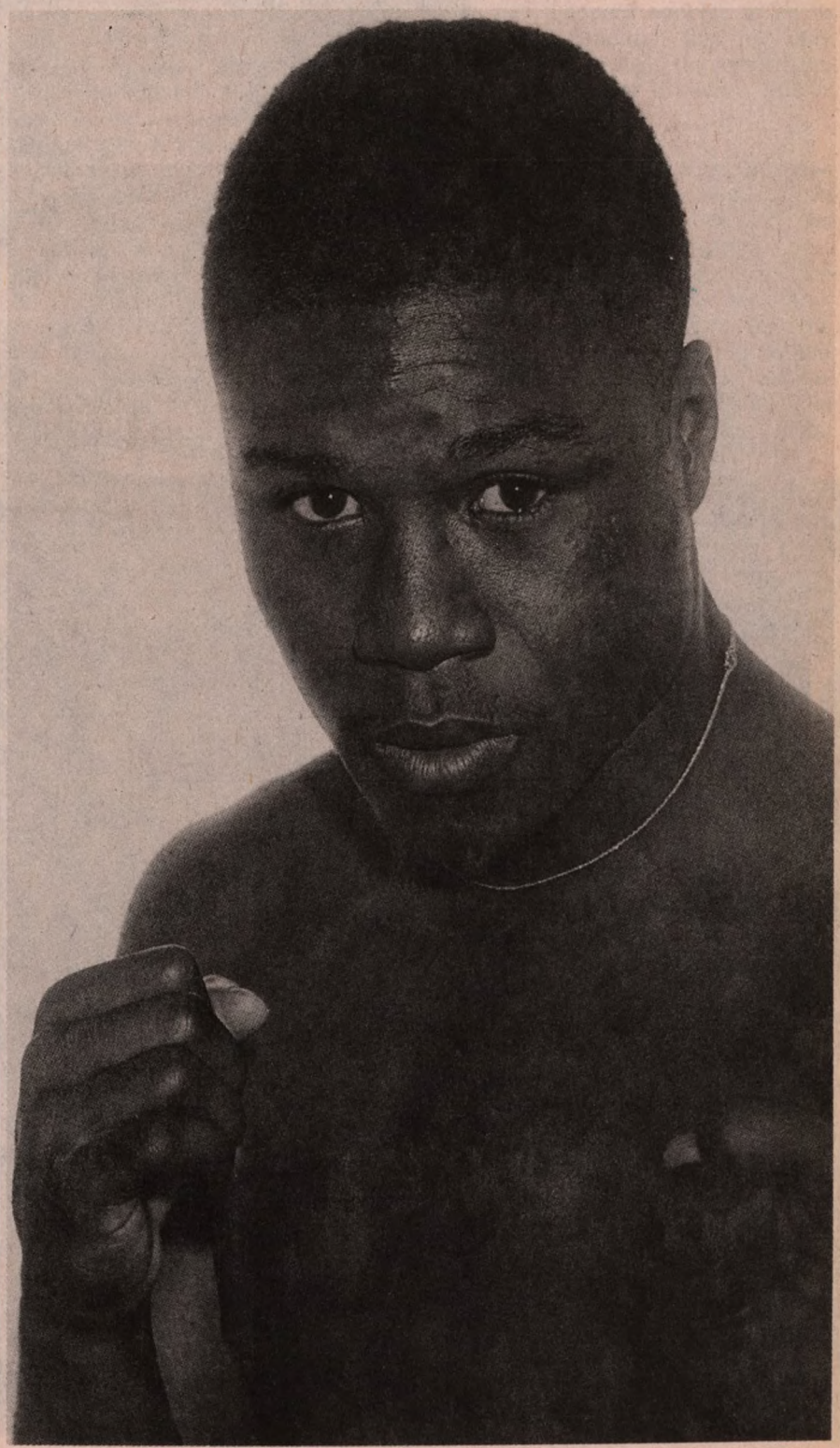
But, these are dream fights and this one is worth dreaming about, though no championship would be involved. What this bout would do would be to establish which of the two would become the driving young force in the 135-pound division, though Taylor may be having some difficulty making the lightweight limit.

You want speed? It would be hard to pair two quicker fighters.

While Taylor had difficulty in a draw with lightning Howard Davis Jr., he seems to have learned from that bout, slipping punches to get inside more in recent encounters. Whitaker will want the fight on the outside, but he can be hurt if hit. Roger Mayweather proved that, so Taylor will be dangerous for the duration.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Maybe the toughest of our "Dream Fights" to predict . . . and none of them have been easy. Both seem to improve with every outing, but I like Taylor by virtue of his busier style and stronger chin. A close points verdict for Taylor, perhaps on the strength of a flash knockdown.

Phill Marder—This presents a very intriguing matchup, one extremely difficult to call. Davis gave Taylor fits with his speed and outside boxing ability, and Whitaker is similar except that he punches harder than Davis. But Whitaker can be hurt, as Mayweather demonstrated. Whitaker by decision.



We'll probably never see a match between stablemates Meldrick Taylor (pictured here) and Pernell Whitaker, but it's certainly a bout worth dreaming about. And who knows? Stranger things have happened, especially in boxing.

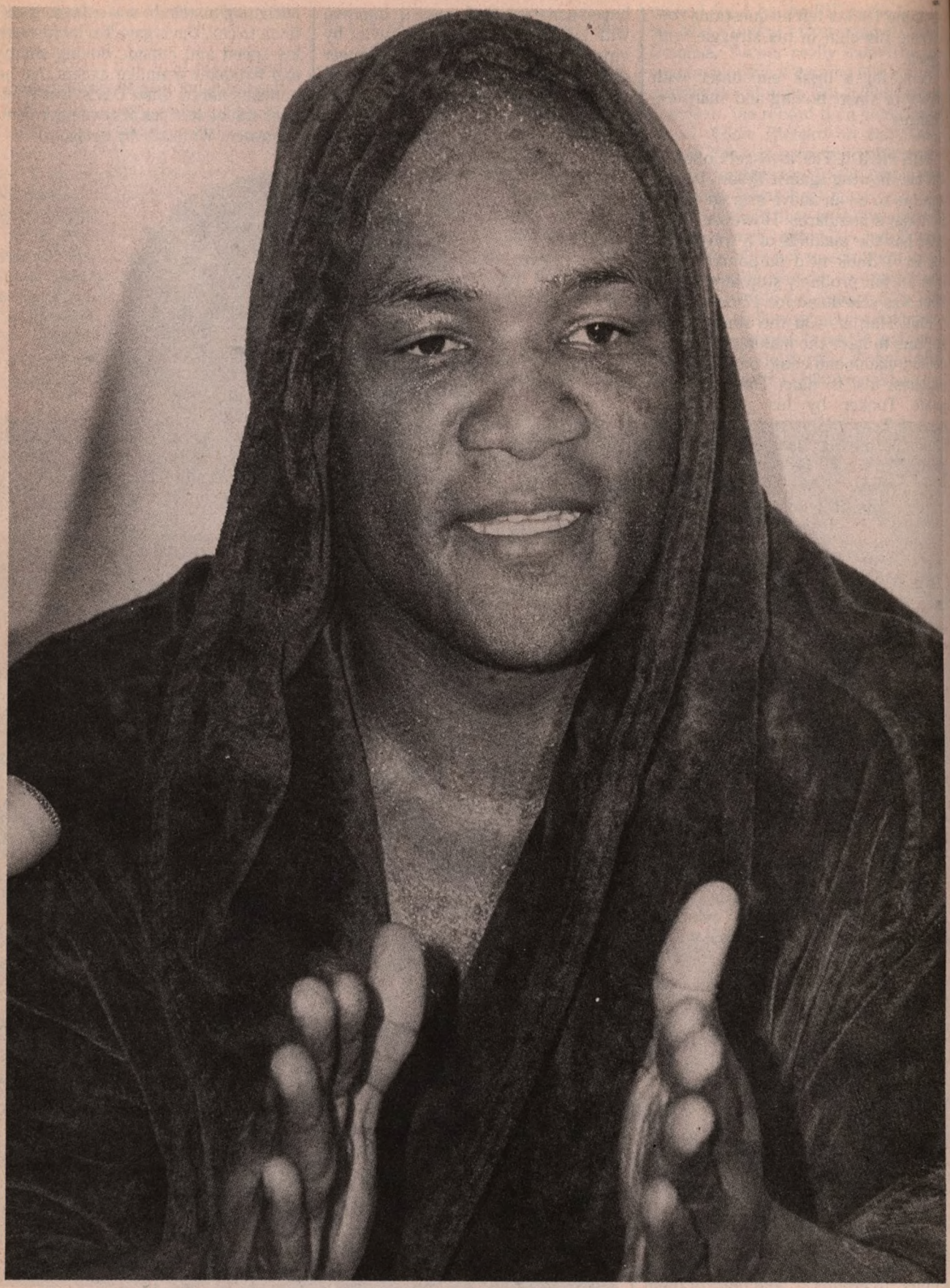


PHOTO BY DICK JOHNSON

Talk about a thriller. Wouldn't you just love to see former heavyweight champion George Foreman slugging it out with Mike Weaver?

GEORGE FOREMAN vs. MIKE WEAVER

HERE'S ONE JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT. But wouldn't it be fun ... while it lasted?

Assuming no one has stopped Foreman's strange comeback by this time, Weaver could prove the perfect foe for old George. At 35, the ex-WBA heavyweight titleholder is almost as old as Foreman, who turns 40 January 22. But Weaver, in a recent knockout win over previously unbeaten James Pritchard, demonstrated he still has plenty left in those cannons that hang from his shoulders.

Sooner or later, Foreman has to get in with someone capable of hitting him back. Weaver would hit him back. At least as long as he was standing. For as powerful as Weaver is, his jaw has never been taken for granite. Neither has Foreman's for that matter.

Weaver would either knock Foreman back into retirement or Foreman would establish his comeback as something more than an embarrassing sideshow. No matter what the outcome, it would be bombs away for as long as it lasts. And don't be surprised to see the winner in with Tyson. Joe Louis may be gone, but these two are still breathing.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Bombs away! I'd pay to see this one every week, but I don't think George and Mike could take it. Foreman by early TKO to set up match with Tyson-Spinks winner.

Phill Marder—Foreman is capable of knocking out any fighter he hits, and Weaver will never be mistaken for a gazelle. Still, old George has appeared woefully slow, and he was slow in his prime. The two pound each other for six minutes until Weaver lands a crusher in the third round.

SUGAR RAY LEONARD vs. MARVIN HAGLER

LEONARD CONTINUES IN RETIREMENT, basking in the glory of his unexpected victory over Hagler, while "The Marvelous One" tries to pick up the pieces of his shattered ego and marriage.

This fight probably won't take place for several reasons. The only rematch Leonard ever accepted was against Roberto Duran, who beat Leonard the first time they fought. If you're going to beat Leonard, you'd better do it the first time. Another reason for the fight not to happen is that no title would be involved, though one of the "Alphabet" organizations would probably be glad to start another new weight class with a vacant crown just for these two. Not that it matters. Leonard/Hagler II would be a mammoth gate attraction anyway, and just think of the sanctioning fees that would be saved.

But, in the spirit of fair play, this is a bout that should take place. After all, Hagler was man enough to face Leonard. Leonard should be man enough to give Hagler an equal opportunity. If he isn't, the boxing public will remember. Twenty years from now if the two are introduced at the same arena, check out who gets the applause and who gets the raspberries.

Not that Leonard couldn't win the rematch. If anything, it could be easier. Hagler showed signs of slipping in the John Mugabi fight and hasn't done a thing since his loss to Sugar Ray. At least Leonard has been keeping busy, working with his new stable of young fighters.

In fact, Leonard appears to be in such good condition that not only should he grant Hagler the rematch, he should grant it over 15 rounds, title or no title.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—If Sugar Ray can do it once, he can do it again. Leonard via late TKO as Hagler's scar tissue gives way.

Phill Marder—I'd like to see this one in the spirit of fairness, but I don't think Hagler would be able to reverse the outcome. Instead, Sugar Ray would probably have an easier time, outboxing Hagler until the ex-champion is forced to concede due to severe cuts.

Sugar Ray Leonard (seated next to his lawyer Mike Trainer) enjoys the fights from ringside in Atlantic City. Can a rematch with Marvin Hagler lure him back inside the ropes?

PHOTO BY DWIGHT H. BROWN

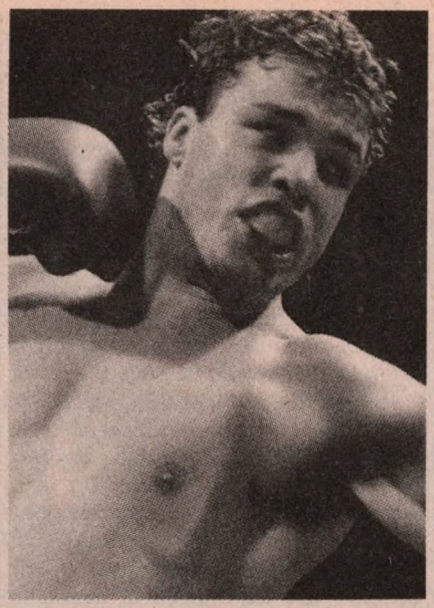
DARRIN VAN HORN vs. MATTHEW HILTON

THIS ONE WOULD BE BILLED FOR THE IBF junior middleweight crown, but who cares? Schedule it for 10 rounds and hype it for what it is, a matchup between two of the brightest and most promising new faces in the middleweight division. You'd still have a battle capable of drawing a huge live crowd in the right locale in addition to a national television audience.

Two unbeatens, Van Horn just 19, Hilton only 21. Two talented unbeatens with styles to make a great fight. Van Horn is fast with his hands and packs a decent punch. Hilton is a little slower, but seems rock hard and few middleweights possess more power, particularly to the body.

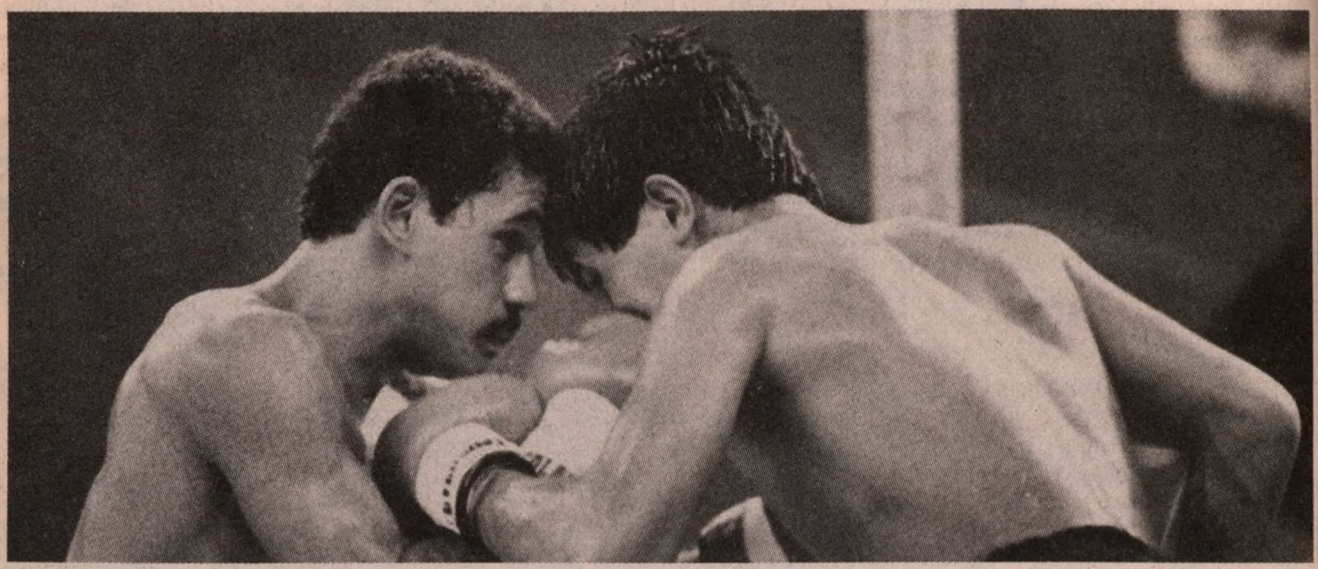
Van Horn will use his speed and quick combinations to keep his distance from the Canadian, while Hilton will press the fight, seeking targets for his body shots.

The winner of this battle will emerge as a serious contender for the middleweight championship of the world.



THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Too much too soon for promising Van Horn. Hilton finds the range for his left hook early and stops Van Horn after a short, but exciting, punchout.

Phill Marder—Van Horn uses his quickness to do well in the early frames, but his propensity for slugging it out when hurt proves his downfall. Hilton tags him and Van Horn goes toe-to-toe. No one goes toe-to-toe with Hilton . . . and survives.



EDWIN ROSARIO/ JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ vs. JOSE LUIS RAMIREZ

WHEN ALEXIS ARGUELLO RELINquished the lightweight championship, the division was thrown into chaos. Just when Hector Camacho seemed ready to clear up the picture, he gained weight and cleared out instead.

When the Rosario/Chavez match was made, *The Ring* was tempted to declare the winner world lightweight champion as Rosario entered the bout ranked No. 1 with Chavez right behind him. But after much thought and debate, it was decided Ramirez could not be ignored since he knocked out Rosario the last time they fought in 1984. Since this article is being prepared as Rosario and Chavez get set to meet, we have no way of knowing the outcome. But if the winner meets Ramirez, *The Ring* will be more than happy to recognize the victor in that bout as the true world lightweight champion.

IBF junior middleweight champ Matthew Hilton (top photo) is the kind of all-action banger who makes great fights. A match with unbeaten prospect Darrin Van Horn would be especially interesting.

THE RING would recognize rubber match between WBA lightweight champ Edwin Rosario (left, bottom photo) and WBC kingpin Jose Luis Ramirez for the world title, if Rosario beats Chavez.

A Rosario-Ramirez rubber match—Rosario won a 12-round decision from Ramirez in 1983—would probably be very similar to their last meeting, which was out and out mayhem until Rosario was stopped. Chavez would give Ramirez different problems with his superior speed.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Rosario outpoints Ramirez by a comfortable margin in their third meeting and Chavez would do the same.

Phill Marder—Chavez, the WBC super featherweight champion unbeaten in over 50 fights heading into the Rosario match, would have little difficulty outboxing the slower Ramirez, a veteran of over 100 wars. Rosario would find Ramirez a little softer than three years ago and wouldn't let him off the hook this time.

FIDEL BASSA vs. MUNG-WOO YUH

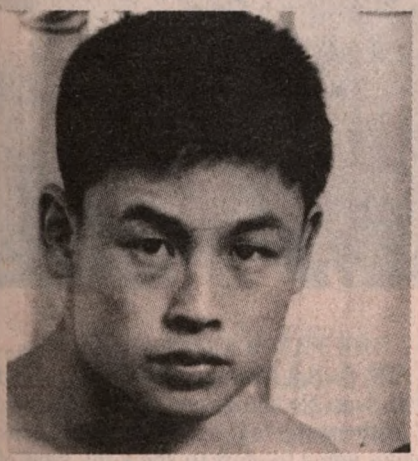
ANY BASSA FIGHT WOULD PROBABLY be worth the price of admission. His two title fights with Hilario Zapata almost started riots, and he had to come off the floor to defend his WBA flyweight title against Ireland's Dave McAuley.

Pitting the unbeaten Colombian against the undefeated Korean, who holds the WBA junior flyweight belt, would likely produce a great fight and a victory would give either a strong case to challenge Chitalada for world honors.

McAuley called Bassa "a dirty so-and-so," but there's no questioning the Colombian's heart and resiliency. Yuh is a typical Korean whirlwind, but not much of a puncher.

It would likely be a great matchup, but Bassa might not make it to the post. By this time, he may have lost his crown to England's tough Duke McKenzie.

Korean strongman Myung-Woo Yuh.



WBA flyweight champion Fidel Bassa.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Yuh asking me? Seriously folks, I saw a tape of the Korean and he's unbelievably strong for a flyweight. Bassa can't stand the heat and goes out late in a see-saw classic.

Phill Marder—Yuh comes at Bassa like gangbusters, but doesn't have the power to damage the Colombian. Bassa slugs back, eventually stopping Yuh around the 11th frame.

KAOSAI GALAXY/ SUGAR BABY ROJAS vs. HAPPY LORA

THERE'S A VACANT WORLD BANTAMweight championship out there to be had, and any of these three would be more than qualified to fill the void, providing two agree to meet.

Galaxy, a southpaw slugger from Korea who has lost just once, holds the WBA junior bantamweight title. Lora, the WBC bantam champ from Colombia, is undefeated.

Rojas is also from Colombia and is also unbeaten, with apologies to our Florida correspondent Lou Zipkin. Zipkin, reporting in the December issue on Rojas' winning of the WBC super flyweight title, said Rojas was undefeated, but the 1986-87 Ring Record Book showed a 1982 loss to Martin Vargas, which was edited into Zipkin's story. Lo and behold, *The Ring's* Colombian correspondent Luis Gonzalez wrote to say that Sugar Baby Rojas from Colombia did indeed lose to Vargas in 1982, but it was a different Sugar Baby Rojas from Colombia! This Rojas, named Jose, is indeed unbeaten. In fact, Zipkin wrote way back in 1984 that "Rojas is one of the best fighters of his weight in all of boxing."

In any event, all three are reported to be outstanding fighters and a match between two would be welcome to determine the true ruler of the bantams.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—All three are excellent fighters, but Lora just might be something special. A real smoothy, "Happy" probably has the overall class to beat both Galaxy and Rojas in good fights.

Phill Marder—Lora, called a "real-life fighting machine" by Zipkin, appears to have the slight edge over both Rojas and Galaxy, but any matchup between two of the three would probably be a dandy. Discount the weight difference. Only three pounds separate the bantamweight division from the bogus junior or super groups created by those illustrious collectors of sanctioning fees.

SOT CHITALADA vs. JUNG-KOO CHANG

IF THAILAND'S SOT CHITALADA, RECognized as world flyweight champion, puts his crown on the line against Korea's Jung-Koo Chang, don't expect to get a ticket, even if you travel to the Orient. This one would be an overseas blockbuster.

Chang, "The Korean Hawk," has lost just once, a controversial decision to Hilario Zapata in his first try at winning the WBC light flyweight title in 1982. The next year he took the crown, knocking out Zapata in three rounds. At press time, he was scheduled to make his 14th defense and, according to Oriental correspondent Joe Koizumi, he has yet to be tested.

An aggressive puncher who regularly draws crowds of over 20,000 in Korea, Chang would certainly be tested by Chitalada, who Koizumi describes as Thailand's version of Muhammad Ali. But Chitalada can punch, too, and this would be his chance to reverse the only loss on his record. In 1984, in only his fourth pro fight, Chitalada lost a 12-round decision to Chang, who was making his 25th start, for the WBC light flyweight title.

"Chitalada is so talented that he might become a greater flyweight champion than his compatriots, Pone Kingpetch and Chartchai Chionoi," wrote Koizumi earlier this year. "He looks much faster and stronger than those three-time world kingpins."

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—I'm out of my depth here, but the last time I asked Joe Koizumi who was the best fighter in the Orient, he said ... "Jung-Koo Chang." That's good enough for me, but I wouldn't bet the rent money. Chitalada's also a potential Hall-of-Famer.

Phill Marder—Again, discount the weight difference (four pounds) between the flyweights and the so-called light flyweights. Chitalada would use his speed and boxing skill to evade the aggressive Chang, and could hold him off over the WBC's 12-round limit. However,

World featherweight champion Antonio Esparragoza (seen here on the right defending his crown against Pascual Aranda) would make great matches with either Azumah Nelson or Jeff Fenech.

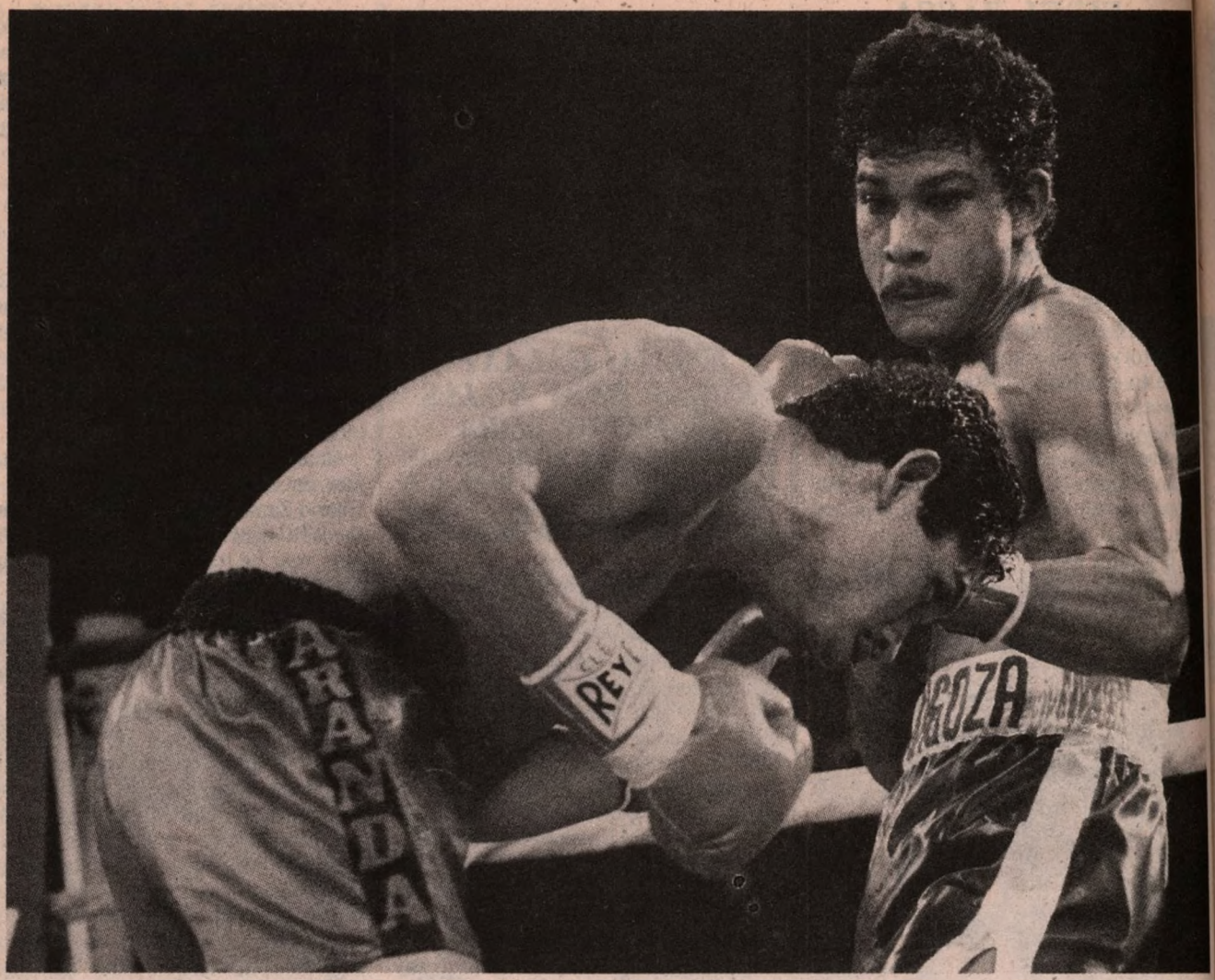


PHOTO BY MARC MORRISON

Chang would probably track him down somewhere along the line, especially if the bout was scheduled for 15 rounds. Chang by TKO.

JEFF FENECH/ AZUMAH NELSON vs. ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA

WHILE ESPARRAGOZA IS GENERALLY recognized as the true world featherweight champion, Ghana's Nelson and Australia's Fenech have been making a heap of noise lately.

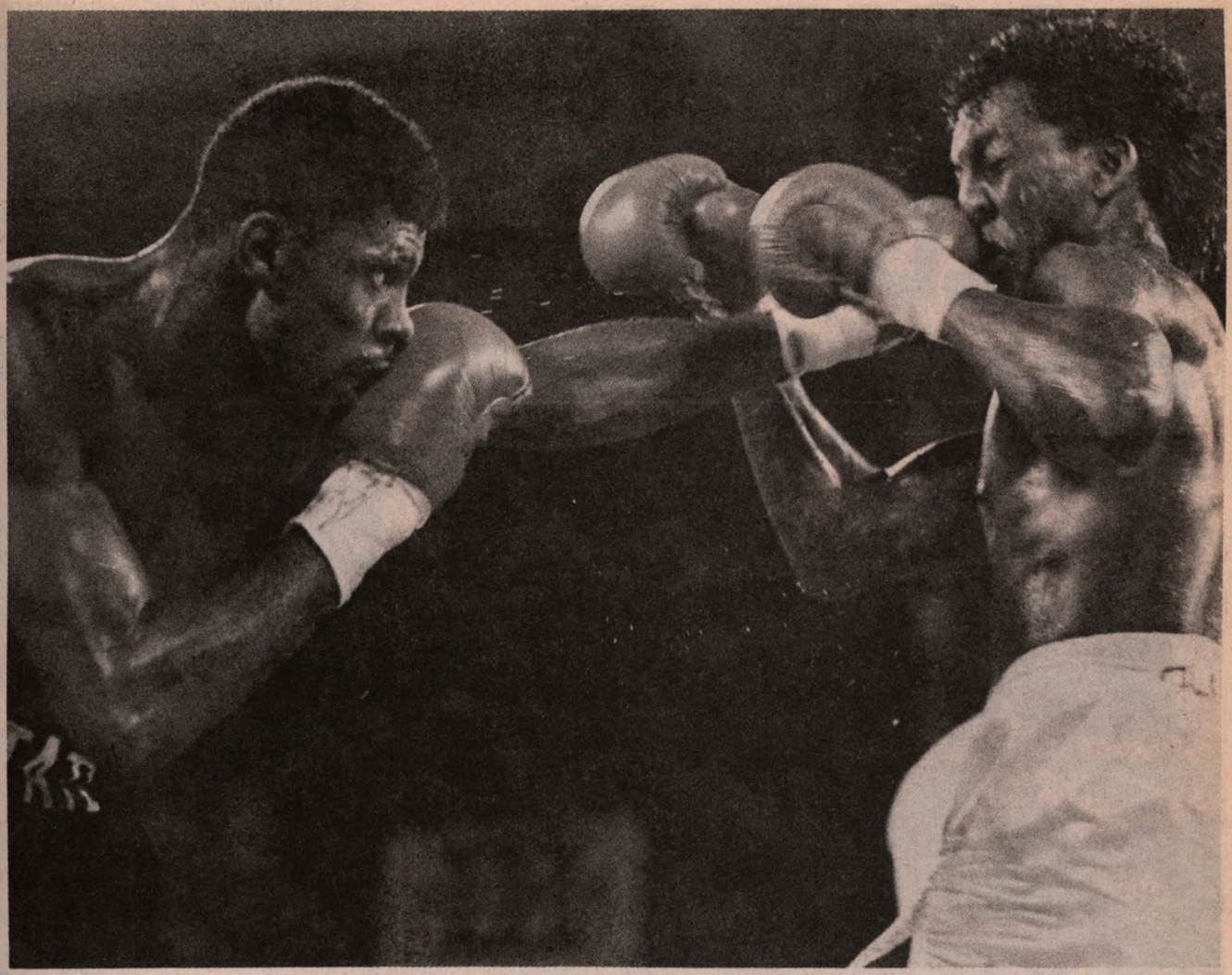
Bill Bolling, correspondent for *The Ring*, recently wrote of Esparragoza, "What will it take to tame this 27-year-old South American with the cat-like quickness? Maybe Azumah Nelson, but probably 'Father Time,' unless there's a featherweight Sugar Ray out there." But Jack Welsh, another *Ring* correspondent, wrote that Nelson, "just might be the best fighter pound-for-pound in any division." Meanwhile, veteran Arthur Mercante said after refereeing the match in which Fenech won the WBC super bantamweight title, "Fenech is very good and will take some beating. He is a throwback to the fighters of the 30's with his determination and aggression."

The once-beaten Esparragoza has continually expressed a desire to defend against Nelson, but Nelson, who also has just one loss, has indicated a desire to move to the lightweight division to challenge Rosario. If Nelson should abandon the 126-pound division for good, he will default his chance of being recognized as a world featherweight champion and will, instead, be acknowledged as what he is, a WBC titleholder. The undefeated Fenech would probably be willing to take on either if given the opportunity.

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—Any pairing among these three would be war. Nelson is one of the strongest featherweights I've ever seen, but I think he's going to start to show the signs of a fairly long career soon and might drop a close decision to the talented and fresher Esparragoza. Fenech sounds great from a distance and *The Ring's* Man Down Under, Ray Mitchell, gives him top grades. But I'm still not completely sold. Another close, hard-fought win for Esparragoza.

Phill Marder—Nelson, whose only loss came to the late Salvador Sanchez, would probably have enough to take Esparragoza by a late TKO. However, Fenech may be the best of the three. And don't tell me he'd be too small. There's only four pounds difference between the featherweights and so-called super bantams. Fenech could gain that eating a good lunch.

Frank Tate (left) nails Michael Olajide with a jab to the mouth en route to a 15-round decision for the IBF middleweight crown. Would Tate enjoy the same kind of success against the more experienced Mike McCallum?



FRANK TATE vs. MIKE McCALLUM

SIX MONTHS AGO, NOT MANY WOULD have yearned to see either Tate or McCallum against anyone. But what a difference two bouts can make.

Tate opened a lot of eyes with a dazzling decision win over Michael Olajide for the IBF version of the now vacant middleweight championship. Olajide is one fine fighter, but Tate took him apart with relative ease.

McCallum, campaigning as a junior middleweight titleholder, piled up an undefeated record, but with little fanfare. Until he cold-cocked Donald Curry, that is. Finally, the Jamaican has decided to go after a real championship in the 160-pound division.

That both are unbeaten adds to the suspense. That one is a veteran, one a relative newcomer, makes the matchup even more interesting. That both have knockout punches will keep the outcome in doubt as long as it lasts.

Neither could gain world recognition from *The Ring* with a win in this match, but it would be a big step in that direction for the eventual victor.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS FARINA

THE PREDICTIONS: Nigel Collins—McCallum can punch, but Tate can box and punch. Unless Tate's untested chin is china, he'll outpoint McCallum by a fairly large margin.

Phill Marder—It should be remembered that Curry was having his way with McCallum before getting caught and knocked out. Tate refused to chase Olajide and would probably do the same against McCallum. If McCallum falls into the trap Olajide did, he will likely meet the same fate. If McCallum doesn't go after Tate, he'll probably still lose and what was considered an interesting matchup will turn into a real stinker. □

Former WBA junior middleweight boss Mike McCallum has relinquished the 154-pound title to go after the middleweight crown. THE RING staff thinks a match with Frank Tate would be a classic boxer vs. slugger confrontation.

ROLDAN ROLLS OVER FOR HEARNS

Roldan misses an overhand right as Hearns counters with a solid left to the side of "The Hammer."

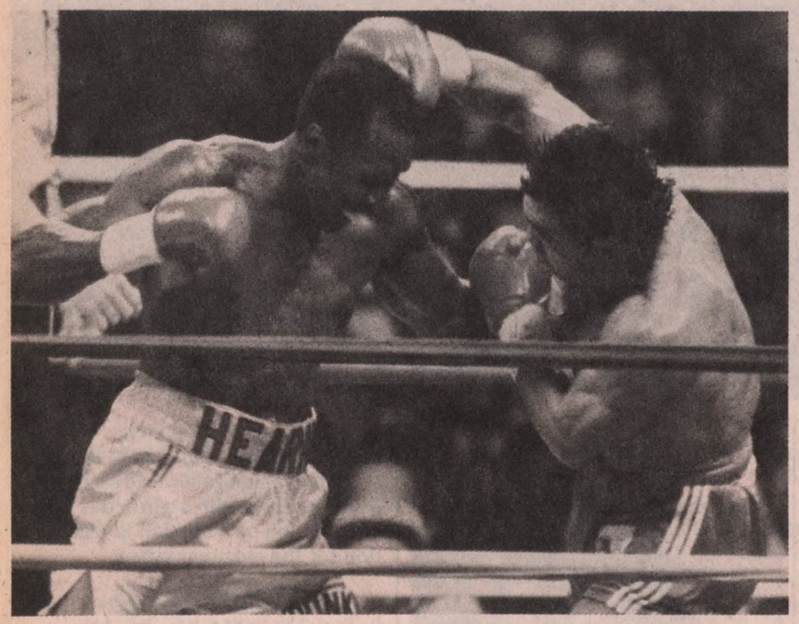
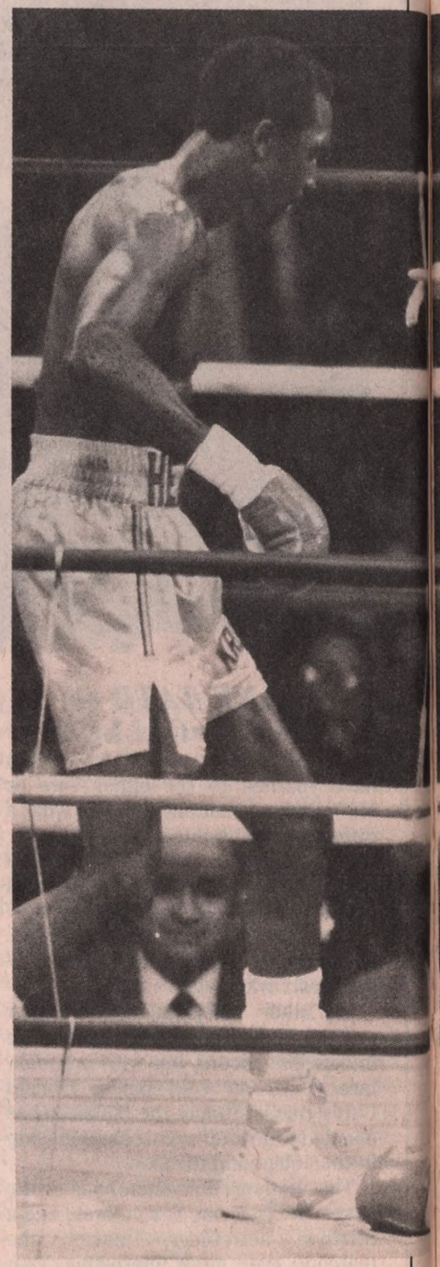


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Argentine strongman Juan Roldan wings one of his wild rights at Thomas Hearns during their bout for the WBC middleweight title. Roldan landed some, but Hearns' were more accurate and harder.

Juan Roldan lies flat on his face after sampling a right-hand barrage by Thomas Hearns in their battle for the vacant WBC middleweight title at the Las Vegas Hilton. Roldan rolled over, but couldn't rise as Hearns scored a four-round knockout.



FOUR WORLD TITLES IN FOUR WEIGHT divisions.

No one had managed the feat in the history of boxing. No one until Tommy Hearns flattened Juan Domingo Roldan in four rounds, that is.

And while Hearns' accomplishment must be taken with a grain, perhaps a ton, of salt, considering he has never captured a true world championship, there can be no denying the "Hit Man's" stature as one of the 1980's greatest and most exciting performers.

True, Hearns had lost to Sugar Ray Leonard in his bid for the world welterweight championship. And, he had been knocked unconscious by Marvin Hagler in his attempt to capture the world middleweight championship. But both bouts were classics, destined to go down in history as two of the greatest fights ever seen.

Still, Hearns has been judged not by his tremendous accomplishments, but by his two defeats. The fighter who couldn't win the big one ... Thomas Hearns.

Until October 29. That night, Hearns stepped into the outdoor ring at the Las Vegas Hilton intent on erasing that

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

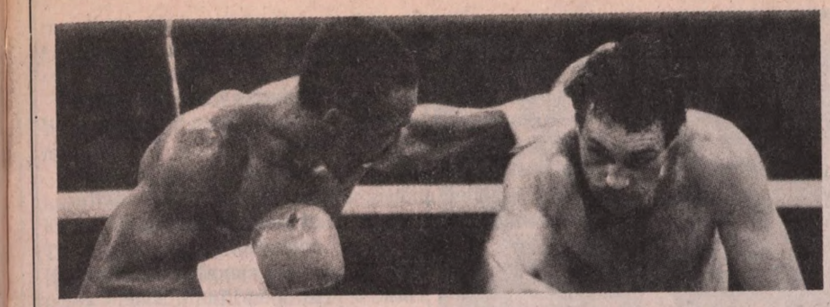


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

image and intent on making history. He had won a piece of the welterweight title, a piece of the super welterweight title and a piece of the light heavyweight title. Now, he was looking for a piece of the middleweight crown ... and a piece of Roldan.

With Sugar Ray Leonard's annual retirement, the middleweight championship became vacant. Naturally, each of boxing's governing bodies selected its own contenders to fight for its title, Frank Tate winning IBF honors with a 15-round decision over Michael Olajide shortly before Sumbu Kalambay grabbed the WBA slice with a decision over Iran Barkley.

It was left to Hearns and Roldan to complete the trilogy, with the WBC title at stake. While Hearns entered the ring the betting choice, Roldan, who had won 12 straight since losing to Hagler in 1984, received strong support. Roldan's manager, Luis Abba, was so confident in his charge, he wagered $46,000 on the strong Argentinian, who carried a 61-3-2, 41 KOs record into the scheduled 12-rounder.

But Hearns, who stood 44-2 with 37 KOs heading in, was not to be denied.

Roldan reached the ring first, smiling and waving at the crowd as he waited for Hearns to join him. Wearing white with blue trim, Roldan weighed 159¼, one-quarter pound less than Hearns, who shed almost 15 pounds since winning the WBC light heavy crown from Dennis Andries in his last start March 7.

Hearns, shunning the traditional robe for a white sweatsuit, appeared tense as he made his way to the ring, but not as tight as when he took the long march to face Hagler in April, 1985.

Paulito Ortega, described by ring announcer Chuck Hull as South America's answer to Julio Iglesias and Frank Sinatra, sang the Argentina national anthem, with Roldan and his handlers joining in. Ironically, Ortega seemed shaky, and Jeffrey Osborne, singing the "Star Spangled Banner," blew him away. It was a sign of what was to come.

And what was to come was just what was expected. With the first bell, Roldan, nicknamed "The Hammer," flew out of his corner and immediately proceeded to try to nail Hearns into the canvas. But the "Hit Man" was ready.

Two overhand rights, Hearns' trademark, suddenly had Roldan on the canvas, and hurt. The Argentinian beat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

"Prince" Charles Williams celebrates his upset victory over Bobby Czyz for the IBF light heavyweight title on the Hearns-Roldan undercard.

"PRINCE" CHARLES WILLIAMS NEW KING OF IBF LIGHT HEAVIES

Czyz Stopped In Stunning Upset

BOBBY CZYZ'S DREAM OF uniting the light heavyweight title was rudely shattered when underdog "Prince" Charles Williams took everything Czyz could dish out and rallied back to win the IBF title with a ninth-round TKO on the Hearns-Roldan undercard at the Las Vegas Hilton.

Czyz, 173¾, surrendered his portion of the 175-pound crown sitting on his stool at the end of the ninth, sporting a swollen right eye reminiscent of the legendary shiner suffered by Carmen Basilio against Sugar Ray Robinson. But though Czyz's eye made it practically impossible to continue, he was a beaten man, anyway. Williams shocked the oddsmakers, who had installed Czyz as a solid 2-1 favorite, handing the Wanaque, New Jersey idol a nasty pounding from the fourth round on.

Before Czyz's stunning defeat there even had been talk of a possible match with Sugar Ray Leonard, but all that went down the tube when Williams proved to be a much tougher challenger than expected.

A resident of Mansfield, Ohio, Williams was a journeyman going nowhere fast until he lost a hard-fought decision to once and future light heavyweight boss Marvin Johnson back in 1984. Williams was so impressive in defeat, Johnson's promoter, Russell Peltz, took him under his wing. Williams responded with a winning streak which earned him the top spot in the IBF ratings and a crack at Czyz.

The bout was a fast-paced, take-no-prisoners shootout from the opening bell. Both men landed early and often, Czyz with his powerful right cross and Williams, 172¼, with a stinging left jab.

Czyz lacked his normal head movement and Williams took full advantage of the situation, popping the champ square in the puss with stiff jabs throughout much of Round Two. Then, with the clock running down, Czyz floored Williams with a smashing right to the head.

Williams, in obvious distress, scraped himself off the deck and wobbled to his feet just as the round-ending bell sounded and quickly plopped on his stool.

Czyz went right after Williams in Round Three and soon hurt him again. A hard right knocked the challenger into the ropes where he came to rest with his rump sitting on the bottom strand. Referee Carlos Padilla jumped in and administered what amounted to a standing eight-count. It proved to be a big break for Williams and the beginning of the end for Czyz.

Showing remarkable recuperative powers, Williams suddenly turned the tide, hammering Czyz with both hands. As the round wound down, it was Czyz's turn to be staggered as Williams connected with a series of rights to the head.

Williams' jab continued to find Czyz's face in Round Five, raising an ugly mouse over Bobby's right eye. It was an injury which grew in size and severity with practically every punch Williams landed. And he landed plenty.

Urged on by his corner, Williams opened Round Five with a flurry. He repeatedly beat Czyz to the punch, while Czyz seemed to be trying to load up for one big shot in an effort to save his title.

Rounds Six and Seven saw Williams really give Czyz a paint job with the jab. And even though Bobby tried to muster a rally, he was falling further and further behind.

The start of Round Eight was delayed while the ringside doctor checked Czyz's eye. This late medical inspection gave Czyz a few extra seconds rest and he tore after Williams with renewed vigor. It was, however, a last ditch effort. The champ was running out of steam and Williams got the better of several bristling exchanges.

After another brief flurry to open Round Nine, Czyz was back on the receiving end. Williams, still relatively fresh, turned Czyz's legs to jello with a nifty right uppercut. This time, it was Czyz's turn to be saved by the bell.

Czyz, a sad sight to behold, wisely decided he'd had enough, saying he'd "rather live to fight another day than be seriously injured." After nine rounds, two judges had Williams ahead by scores of 88-84 (Glen Hamada) and 89-84 (Mike Glienna), while Dalby Shirley had it 85-85. The loss dropped Czyz to 32-2 with 23 KOs.

Williams, who was naturally ecstatic with his performance, is 22-4-2 with 14 KOs.

They used to knock Michael Nunn for being too much of a fancy dan, but all that changed with his vicious fourth-round TKO over Darnell Knox for the NABF middleweight title.

Nunn, 159¼, North Hollywood, California, wanted to prove he was a factor in the muddled middleweight situation and prove it he did, wasting Knox from the onset with a savage attack which left ringsiders wondering if he was the same guy who had put fans to sleep with his hit-and-run tactics in the past.

Nunn scored a cheap knockdown (more of a push) in the first, but there was nothing cheap about most of the punches he was driving home to various parts of Knox's anatomy. He also mixed in practically every dirty trick in the book, including hitting on the break, butting and punching below the belt—a sin which forced referee Richard Steele to deduct a point from Nunn's total in Round Three.

Knox, 159½, Detroit, absorbed brutal uppercuts in Round Four and began to bleed heavily from his nose. The rout was terminated at the end of the fourth, upping Nunn's record to 27-0 with 17 KOs. The battered loser fell to 27-2 with 21 KOs.

Henry Anaya Jr., 146½, Albuquerque, NM, TKO'd Joe Camacho, 148, Tucson, Arizona with a left hook to the gut at 3:09 of the fourth round in a scheduled six. Referee, Joey Curtis.

Tucson's Javier Suazo made short work of Angel Medina, flooring him twice in Round One for a TKO in just 27 seconds. The quick win lifted Suazo's log to 16-4 with seven KOs, while Medina dipped to 8-2 with just one KO. Davey Pearl refereed this welterweight bout scheduled for eight rounds.

Eloy Montano, 134, Albuquerque, NM, outpointed Eddie Rios, 139, El Paso, Texas, in a four-rounder.

Promoter: Top Rank, Inc.
Attendance: 8,653.
Gross Gate: $2,136,000
(10-29-87)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

the count of referee Mills Lane, rubbing his already sore mouth as Lane tolled off the mandatory eight.

Nearly two minutes remained. Would Roldan survive? He did ... and more.

Looking like the reincarnation of Luis "The Wild Bull of the Pampas" Firpo, Roldan plowed forward again. This time, his right landed, sending Hearns into the ropes and forcing the lanky Detroiter to hold. Roldan scored again with the right uppercut, and the tide appeared to be shifting.

But just before the bell, Hearns scored with another right and Roldan was on the canvas once more. The bell rang, but Roldan still had to beat the count, which he did, rising at six. He stumbled to his corner where he remained standing while his seconds worked feverishly to freshen him before the next onslaught.

It was not a first round comparable to Hearns' startling slugout with Hagler, but it was one that would not be forgotten for some time. And, it got better.

At the bell for Round Two, Roldan steamed forward once again. And once again Hearns, using his six-inch reach advantage to maximum effectiveness, countered with a right. A follow-up left cuffed Roldan behind the head, but it was enough to put the Argentinian down for a third time. Now, Hearns had almost an entire round to put him away.

But lo and behold, Roldan came back like gangbusters. No, he didn't knock Hearns through the ropes and out of the ring as Firpo had done to Jack Dempsey over 64 years ago, but he was trying his damnest, and by the end of the round Hearns was on his bicycle trying to determine just what would keep this awkward bruiser on the floor for good.

By the end of the next frame, Hearns' thoughts had turned to survival. Showing remarkable resiliency, Roldan chugged ahead as if the fight was just beginning. Roldan landed a solid right, then followed with a right-left-right that had Hearns on wobbly pins. Hearns grabbed, and Lane gave him a brief respite by stopping the action to warn both about hitting on the break.

Roldan, sensing Hearns was in trouble, scored with two more rights. Hearns fired back, bloodying the nose of the Argentinian, but Roldan landed another three-punch combination that

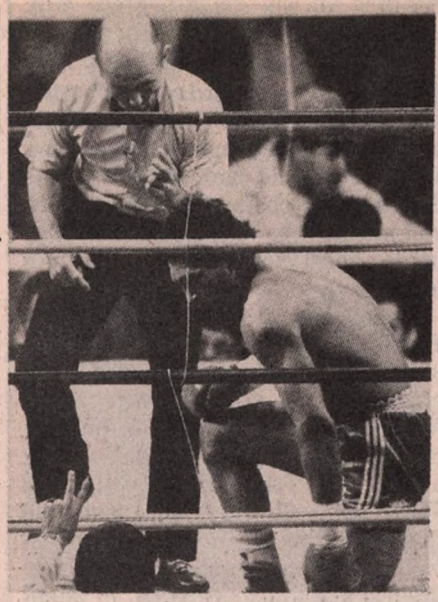


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Roldan finds himself in an unfamiliar position as he listens to the count of referee Mills Lane. Roldan was dropped three times before Hearns applied the finisher.

kept the brawl going in his direction. A Roldan right had Hearns smiling, the sure sign that the Detroiter was in less than full possession of his faculties. Roldan punctuated his barrage with a good left hook, and Hearns welcomed the bell, breathing heavily as he headed to the safety of his corner.

The third had clearly belonged to Roldan, and ringsiders wondered if Hearns had not squandered his best opportunity. Most experts had predicted Hearns would be in trouble if the bout went any distance. Hearns had had Roldan down three times in the first two frames and couldn't keep him there. The Argentinian had stormed back in the next three minutes. The "Big One" appeared to be slipping from Hearns' grasp one more time.

When Roldan started the fourth with a thunderous left hook that had Hearns' legs going in three directions at once, one couldn't have blamed Abba if he had left Roldan's corner to collect his wagers. The only thing that seemed to keep Hearns erect was the ringpost in Roldan's corner, where Hearns finally came to a stop. Roldan pinned him against the post and unloaded bomb after bomb. But they were bursting in air as Roldan's wildness and his reluctance to aim for Tommy's body proved Hearns' salvation and Roldan's undoing.

However, no one, not even Hearns' manager, Emanuel Steward, could have expected what was to come next. Having avoided most of Roldan's roundhouse follow-ups, Hearns finally rolled out of the trap. But rather than run for cover, Hearns decided to stand his ground.

Without warning, a Hearns counter right caught Roldan flush on the chin. Again, with just one bolt, the flow of this slugfest had changed.

Roldan, hurt, lunged forward in an attempt to grab Hearns. But Hearns leaned back, then came forward with a short, straight right. The punch caught the oncoming Roldan flush. Again, he reached to grab Hearns. But this time when Hearns stepped back, Roldan kept falling forward, eventually pitching to the deck face first. "The Wild Bull of the Pampas" had become "The Mild Bull of the Canvas."

Whether or not the Argentinian could have gotten up once again, only he knows. He didn't try. Roldan remained prone until Lane reached eight. At that point, Roldan rolled weakly over onto his back in complete surrender.

"I fooled him," said a jubilant Hearns. "I had more energy than he thought I had."

But Hearns did admit Roldan had tagged him, saying, "I was pretty nervous about that because I'm not used to being in there and getting hit and hurt and trying to hold on."

Hearns, who earned a reported $1,100,000 to Roldan's $250,000 plus Latin American TV rights, indicated his top priorities were rematches with the only two men to defeat him, Leonard and Hagler, who were both present. But Leonard appears to have no desire to meet Tommy again, and Hagler doesn't want to waste his time fighting for just a piece of the middleweight crown, which for so long belonged solely to him.

Hearns repeatedly said that winning a title in a fourth weight division guaranteed his place in history, and he also hinted he might try for a crown in a fifth division.

That's nice, but it's about time Hearns established himself as the best fighter in the world in his weight class, be it middleweight or light heavyweight. It's time Tommy Hearns cleaned up one weight class and established a claim as a true "world champion."

That is something he has never accomplished. □

GOOD BAD FIGHTS

By Joseph D'O'Brian

THERE'S AN AIR OF SMUGNESS SURrounding the heavyweight division these days. Mike Tyson seems to have gone a long way toward convincing the public that his false claim to the title is in fact a valid one; he's proven himself as a drawing card, and this means that the real champ, one Mr. Spinks, will just have to wait until his arteries harden and Tyson's camp decides he's too ancient to be a threat.

Meanwhile, there's talk of setting Tyson up with "defenses" against fellows who wouldn't stand much of a chance against Primo Carnera, much less Iron Mike. Guys like Adilson Rodrigues, some fellow called Damiani, and a very, very old Larry Holmes. That's all well and fine. Tyson will make a few bucks, enough to keep him well-fed but not enough to seriously interest the tax man. Then, in about 1991, he'll finally allow Spinks to get into the ring with him. It'll be a nice draw, but by then it shouldn't be much of a contest. Smart thinking? You bet.

But is it, really? Supposing one of these opponents lapses into a coma in the middle of the fight and accidentally bounces a tactical nuclear missile off Tyson's noggin? It has happened. Or supposing one of these opponents manages to confuse Tyson just enough to make him look really horrible, even if he does manage to sneak off with a close decision and keep his "titles"? That, too, isn't unheard of.

As a matter of fact, a good boxing historian could come up with an entire small book devoted to the subject of nonentities who have challenged for one title or another, taking the short end of 10-1 odds, and have either managed to win the title (for one defense) or to come mighty close.

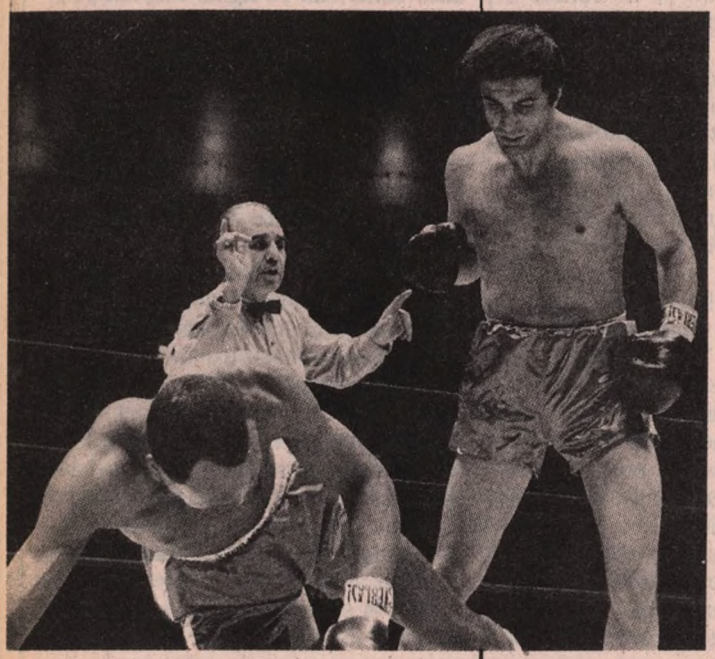
This is a phenomenon common to individual sports, of course. You have stories about the time when a driving-range instructor named Jack Fleck went temporarily out of control and took the U.S. Open from under the nose of Ben Hogan, or the time when an unknown Dutchman named Max Euwe caught the immortal Alexander Alekhine in the middle of a prolonged drunk and briefly won the world's chess championship.

But boxing seems to suffer from this kind of thing considerably more often than other sports. And it's maybe a good thing, too, for the various champions. Otherwise, they'd never be able to get away with some of the matches their managers make for them. Whenever some super-champ signs to fight Joe Nobody, he can defend himself from criticism by saying, "Well, you never know. Didn't Tom Atocan beat up on Hercules Adonis last year? And didn't Otto D. Morgue give One-Round Samson a helluva fight? Hey, it might happen this time, too!"

On the whole, it's probably not bad for the boxing world in general, either. Even if the designated bum makes exactly as bad a fight as everyone expected, there's usually a little something interesting about the battle that will end up as a footnote in some old champ's ghost-written memoirs. Or, if the hero-vs.-stiff confrontation can be given some sort of an angle, the fight can end up becoming a prominent part of boxing lore.

For instance, is there a serious boxing fan who hasn't heard of Joe Louis' "Bum of the Month" campaign in 1940-41? That episode, you'll recall, consisted of Louis traveling around the country to cities that didn't normally get to host title bouts, defending against some fellow who clearly had no shot at the rate of one fight per month.

The way Louis explained this in one of his several autobiographies, he was looking at important defenses against Billy Conn and Lou Nova later in 1941. He wanted to save himself for those fights, but he wanted to make a little ready cash while keeping himself in shape. He and his managers kicked



Frankie DePaula stands over Bob Foster in the opening moments of their 1969 bout in New York City for the light heavyweight title. Unfortunately for DePaula, Foster beat the count and proceeded to drop Frankie three times in the first round for an automatic TKO victory over the New Jersey club fighter.

around the possibilities of exhibitions or non-title fights, but finally hit on this plan as being the most lucrative.

It's true that all of Louis' opponents in this campaign were lightly regarded by the public. And it's true that if the Louis camp had tried to hype any of these fellows as being serious threats, they'd have been laughed at. But Louis' people were fairly up-front about the whole thing. The package was regarded as a bit of a lark: Sure, these fights were title defenses, but only technically, and everyone knew perfectly well that Louis wasn't using these fights in order to duck anyone. Everyone knew he'd fight a real contender or two before the year was out.

And as it turned out, some of those fights were fairly entertaining. As Louis wrote, "Bums don't knock the champion through the ropes. Bums don't last 13 rounds." (Buddy Baer accomplished the former, Abe Simon the latter, although neither man distinguished himself in any other way against Louis.)

Come to think of it, there aren't too many champions, at any weight, who never took a "freebie" defense during their reigns, who never took on an opponent who stood no chance whatever of winning. Floyd Patterson had a couple of these; so did Muhammad Ali. Henry Armstrong, the triple champ, had a lot of them. Even Joe Frazier was guilty of it once or twice. And if it's done only very occasionally, I think it's a good thing. It provides entertainment at lower ticket prices, a payday for the underemployed, and an awful lot of good stories.

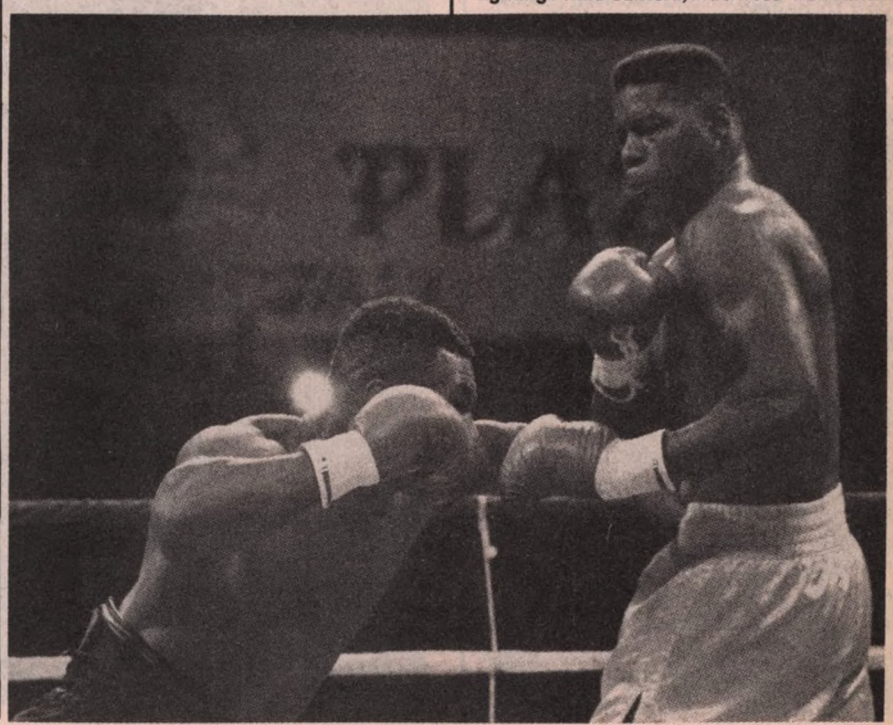
Like the time Frankie DePaula, a blown-up middleweight with an indifferent record, was hauled into the ring to face Bob Foster, possibly the greatest light heavy champ of all time. After the predictable ending, DePaula ruefully commented, "I lose a decision to Dick Tiger, and off of that I get stopped in the first by Foster. Does this mean that now I must fight Frazier for the heavyweight title?"

Then there's the story of the Jack Dempsey-Billy Miske fight back in 1919, a favorite among those fans with a sentimental bent. Dempsey, the new champ, had fought Miske several times on the way up and knew that this would be a no-risk bout. He also knew, apparently, that Miske was suffering from a fatal disease.

Now, on the face of it, for Dempsey to make a match like this strikes one

Abe Simon, considered just another member of Joe Louis' "Bum of the Month" Club, managed to last 13 rounds with the Brown Bomber in 1941.

Mike Tyson drives a left into Tyrell Biggs' body. THE RING's senior writer, Joe D'O'Brian, thinks many of Tyson's opponents would have been in deep trouble fighting Primo Carnera, much less "Iron Mike."



UPI/BETTMAN NEWSPHOTOS

as the most fiendish cruelty. But the fact was that Miske was broke and had no other way of keeping his family fed. Dempsey knew this, too. He went in there and got rid of Miske as quickly and mercifully as he could, and Billy got a payday. According to legend, Miske's final words on his deathbed were, "Tell Jack thanks."

If you're in your late 90s, you might remember the Tommy Burns-Bill Squires traveling show in 1907 and 1908. Squires, an English heavy of some note, came to Colma, California in 1907 to challenge Burns for the heavyweight title. Now that first fight wasn't regarded as a joke. Squires was seen as a true contender who might give Burns a little trouble. But as it turned out, Burns starched him in half a round. Said Squires, "It was a bloody good lickin', and I'm goin' 'ome."

He did, but not for long. He and Burns rather liked each other personally, so they put their heads together and hit on a little plan.

A few months after their first encounter, they met again in Paris. News traveled slowly from Colma to Paris then, so they were able to draw a pretty nice crowd of people who hadn't heard about their first fight. This time, the bout went eight uninspiring rounds. It may have been that the two fighters thought that the first bout had been a fluke, and that the second would be more competitive. But that is rather hard to believe.

Promptly following this second bout, Burns and Squires booked passage (traveling together on the same boat) to Sydney, New South Wales. There, they did an encore, this one lasting 13 rounds. Historical reports are sketchy, but nobody has ever contended that this third bout was any harder for Burns than the first, just longer.

This sounds a bit disgraceful, I'll admit. But look at it this way: The public was entertained, Burns and Squires had fun and made money, and the history of boxing was not badly soiled by this gentle chicanery.

You have those stories and a lot of others. But you rarely hear of one of these stiffs actually scoring an upset. Sure, there are plenty of upsets in boxing, but it's always a case of one guy being a little better than anyone thought he was and overcoming odds of, say, 6-1 or 8-1. You almost never hear of a guy who's so little thought of that bookies arent taking bets, coming across with a big win. There's Braddock beating Baer and Billy Backus stopping Jose Napoles, and that's about it.

And that being the case, why do these bouts so often get made? Why are they never simply laughed off the face of the earth before they can actually take place?

I suspect that it's because most boxing fans secretly like them. We wouldn't be able to handle a steady diet of fights like these, but they're like big, smelly cigars: It's good for the soul to have one now and then.

If there's one thing most boxing fans like to do, it's to make wild speculations on the theme of "everything's fixed." And one of these fights can give unlimited opportunities for rhapsodization on this theme.

Like this one, which I heard from a friend a couple of days after it was announced that Larry Holmes would fight Mike Tyson without using his walker.

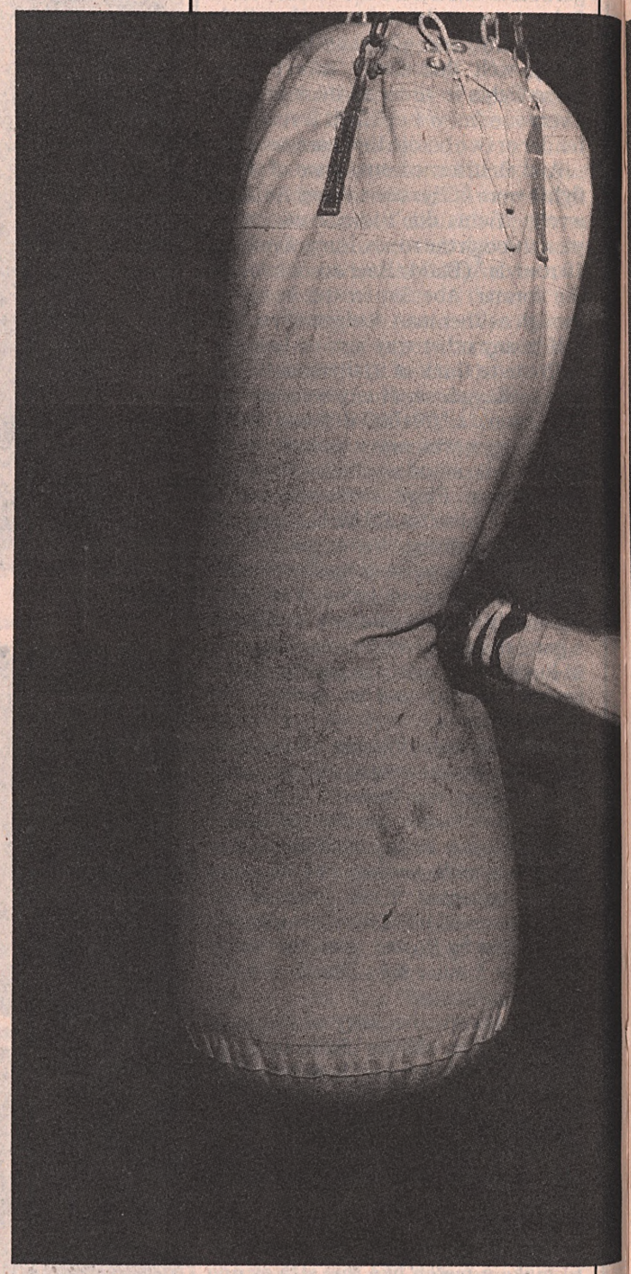
I'd given my opinion that Tyson would end it in about 20 seconds and my friend replied, "I'm inclined to bet on Holmes, if you want a piece of it. It would be very much to Tyson's advantage to lose that fight. Everybody thinks Holmes was robbed in his second fight with Spinks, right? So, let Holmes beat Tyson and fight Spinks again. Then Tyson fights the winner for a lot more money than he'd have got if he'd bowled Holmes over right away. Three fights, two of them for big money."

The trouble with hearing stuff like that is that it sets you to thinking. Naturally, I think my friend's full of road apples on this one, but it's interesting to note that I declined his offer of a bet. Instead, I backed Pat Robertson at five-to-eight against the rest of the field to win the Republican nomination. I'm given to wacky predictions sometimes, myself.

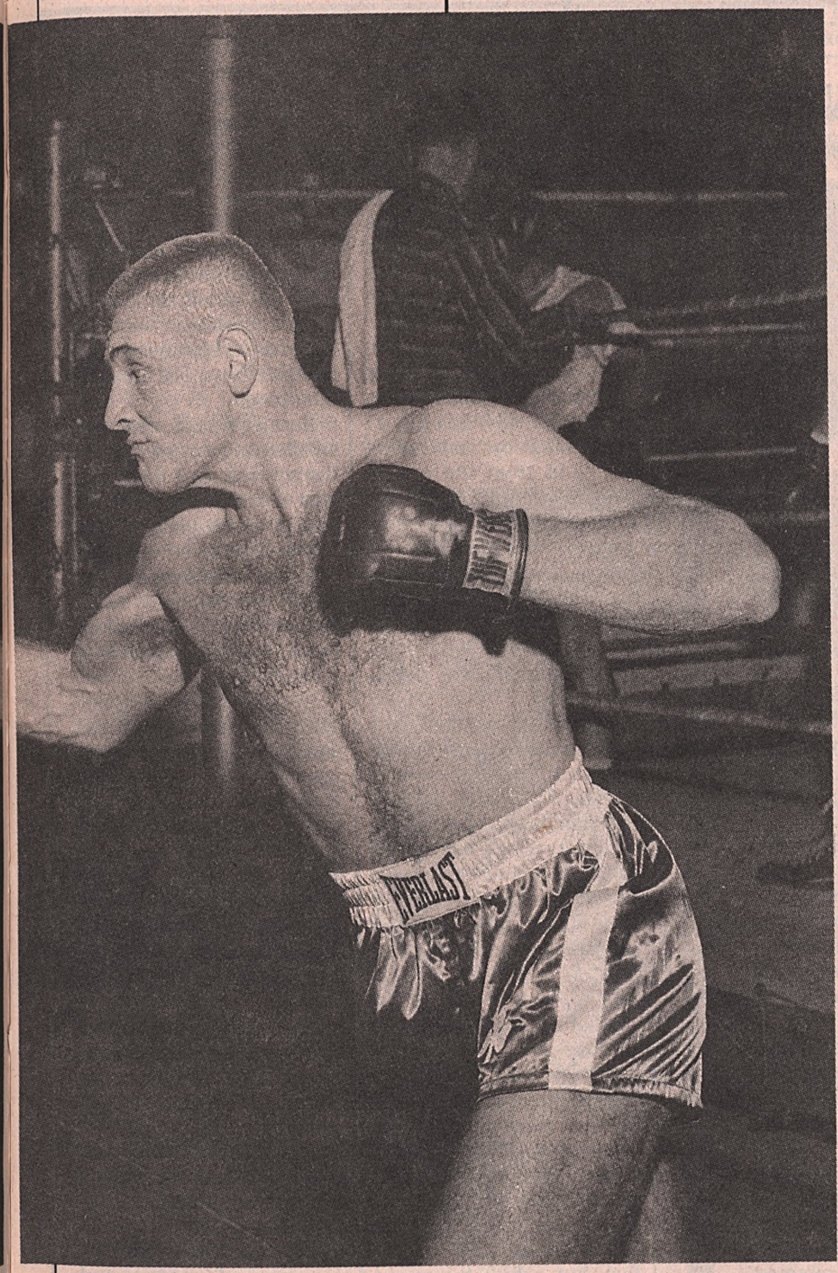
And my prediction on Tyson's proposed string of easy defenses is this: If there are only a few, and if they happen at intervals of six weeks or so, and if they definitely lead up to a bout with Michael Spinks sometime in 1988, then it's cool, and the boxing public will agree that it's cool.

But if, as I fear, he uses these defenses less as entertainment and more as a means to propping up a phony claim while avoiding the one man he should fight, somebody will catch on. And the man who stood to be as big as Ali or Louis will have squandered what he worked for.

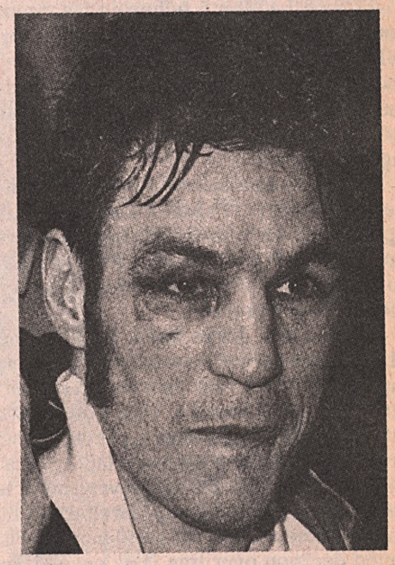
And it's even possible that the boxing public won't get any funny stories out of the whole business. □



Tom McNeeley was one of Floyd Patterson's easier title challengers. But even McNeeley had Patterson on the deck before being stopped in the fourth round of their 1961 bout in Toronto.



Nobody gave Billy Backus a chance when he challenged Jose Napoles for the welterweight title in 1970. But Backus scored a huge upset when he cut Napoles and took the title.



Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

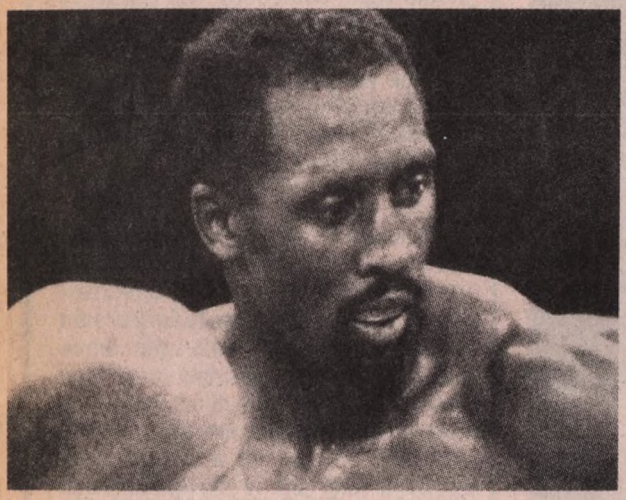


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Thomas Hearns earns honors as "Fighter of the Month" for his victory over Juan Roldan.

The "Hit Man" is back! **Thomas Hearns** is *The Ring's* Fighter of the Month following his dramatic fourth-round kayo over Juan Domingo Roldan for the vacant WBC middleweight title in Las Vegas. In one of the most impressive outings of his career, Hearns started fast, overcame a few rocky moments and then blasted Roldan back to Argentina with a series of searing right-hand bombs.

Runner-up in a month overflowing with excellent performances is **"Prince" Charles Williams,** who upset Bobby Czyz for the IBF light heavyweight crown on the Hearns-Roldan card. Williams, a 2-1 underdog, survived two early knockdowns to batter Czyz into a ninth-round retirement.

Frank Tate, Jorge Vaca, Sumbu Kalambay and **Mike Tyson** earned honorable mentions for outstanding efforts which may very well have garnered top honors in other months. Tate won the vacant IBF middleweight crown with a 15-round decision over previously unbeaten Michael Olajide; Vaca upset Lloyd Honeyghan via an unusual seven-round technical decision to capture the world welterweight title; Kalambay took the vacant WBA 160-pound belt with a 15-round decision over Iran Barkley; and Tyson retained his combined WBC/WBA/IBF heavyweight titles with a seventh-round TKO over Tyrell Biggs. What a month! □

KALAMBAY-BARKLEY

WBA Middleweight Title

LIVERNO, ITALY—A STANDing room only crowd of 4,200 at Liverno's Palazzo Del A Sport saw local favorite Sumbu Kalambay capture the WBA version of the middleweight title with a convincing 15-round decision over New York's Iran Barkley.

Kalambay, who weighed 160, one-half pound more than Barkley, improved his record to 43-3-1 with 19 knockouts by controlling the bout from the outset. The 31-year-old, who was born in Zaire, never seemed close to stopping Barkley, but still won comfortably on the scorecards, two judges giving him a seven-point margin, while the third had him five points ahead.

Kalambay entered the match ranked No. 5 by *The Ring*, with Barkley one peg ahead of him.

Kalambay, who broke into the ratings and earned his title chance with an upset over England's previously undefeated Herol Graham, proved to be an intelligent boxer and an accurate counterpuncher as the methodical Barkley was to discover.

After a slow first round, Barkley took to the attack in the second, throwing heavy blows. But Kalambay wasn't tested until the third, when Barkley found the range with an overhand right. The shot had its effect, but before the round concluded, Kalambay came back to stun Barkley with a right uppercut.

Kalambay scored well with counters in the fourth, and the two engaged in several good exchanges, one of which continued after the bell. The Italian continued to step up the pace in the fifth and didn't hesitate to meet Barkley in the trenches, bloodying his mouth with a left hook in the sixth.

Barkley's left eye was swollen as he came out for the seventh, and Kalambay was scoring with counters almost as he pleased. The eighth continued the pattern, but Kalambay ran into trouble in the ninth as he elected to slug, and Barkley forced him into retreat with a left-right.

By the 10th, the ring canvas had become very wet and both fighters were having trouble maintaining footing. Kalambay slipped to the canvas but showed no ill effect, coming back strong to take another round. In the 11th, Kalambay clubbed Barkley with right after right, opening a cut over the American's left eye.

After a slow 12th, Barkley came out strong in the 13th, apparently aware he needed a knockout to emerge victorious. Barkley nailed Kalambay with some good punches, but slipped trying to follow his advantage and Kalambay countered cleanly. Barkley seemed stunned, and

Though he had been cleanly beaten, Barkley was lifted upon the shoulders of his handlers and paraded around the ring, much to the dismay of the pro-Kalambay crowd, which hooted and whistled.

Kalambay pounded on him through most of the round's remainder.

In the last two frames, Kalambay appeared content to avoid harm as Barkley tried unsuccessfully for the finisher.

Though he had been cleanly beaten, Barkley was lifted upon the shoulders of his handlers and paraded around the ring, much to the dismay of the pro-Kalambay crowd, which hooted and whistled. Barkley's camp seemed surprised when the decision was announced and complained that the wet ring canvas had kept Barkley from getting power into his punches.

"He surprised me," Barkley said of Kalambay. "I thought I had him a couple of times."

On the undercard, Genoa favorite Nino LaRocca scored his 45th KO in a 58-4 record, stopping Paris' Boubekeur Cherif in the fourth. LaRocca, at 154 five pounds heavier than Cherif, dropped the Frenchman with a second-round right, but Cherif, who fell to 14-2, came back to continue pressing the fleet Italian. In the fourth, Cherif suffered a cut under the left eye, and the bout was stopped.

Genoa's Luca De Lorenzi, 147, upped his mark to 18-1 with a four-round TKO over Abdel Marbi, 142, Marsailles, France. Marbi was given a standing eight at the close of Round Two, but fired back in the next frame, cutting De Lorenzi by the right eye. The two slugged away, with Marbi receiving another standing eight shortly before the bell. After Marbi took another eight to begin the fourth, he was sent reeling across the ring by a right, and the scheduled eight-rounder was stopped. Marbi fell to 20-7 with the loss.

Promoter: Top Rank Inc.
(10-23-87)

HILTON-CALLAHAN
IBF Jr. Middleweight Title

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ—If it wasn't just an appetizer, fans would have gone away hungry.

Matthew Hilton defended his shiny new IBF bauble with an easy TKO of ninth-rated "Iron Man" Jack Callahan on the Tyson-Biggs undercard. Instead of championship drama, it was more like a bad "Joe Palooka" script, with an engaging and talented young fighter surrounded by characters more intent on developing their bank accounts than the kid's potential.

"The worst mismatch in title history," predicted a leading area matchmaker who has made enough matches to know. That was a bit exaggerated ... but only a bit.

Hilton tacitly admitted as much when he said he'd planned to box a few rounds but, "I knew right away I could pretty well do what I wanted to with him. After he was cut, I didn't want to beat him up and thought, 'I might as well get this over with.'

If this was merciful, it certainly wasn't gentle. After dominating the first, Hilton, 154, Montreal, left a weak right counter hanging in mid-air as he stepped in with a thudding right to the ribs and a crashing left hook to the jaw that dumped the challenger. The bleeding Callahan, 154, Hammond, Indiana, tried to scramble to safe haven, but was an awkward, moving feast for the champion. A clubbing left hook to the back of the head followed by a booming right to the chin staggered Callahan badly, then another hook set him down again. Hilton's heat had the game "Iron Man" molten as he seemed to flow in every direction at once, just making it back to his corner.

But that proved no more than a mixed blessing as Dr. Frank B. Doggett refused to let the challenger out for the third of a scheduled 15.

"I mainly stopped it because of the beating he took," said Doggett. "I just didn't see any reason to let it continue."

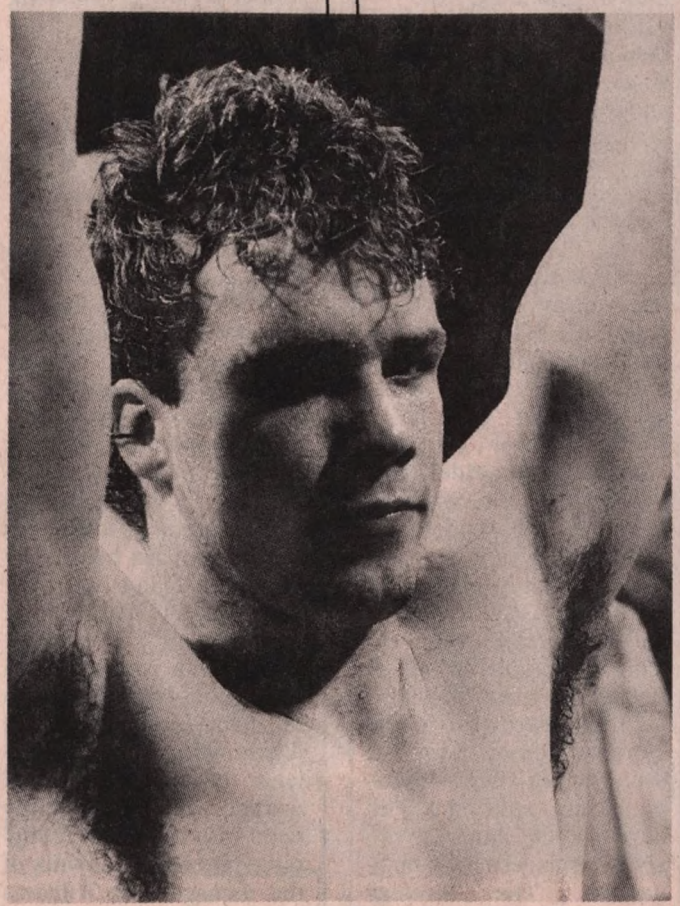
Which again raises the question of why it started in the first place. Though a tough club fighter to be sure, Callahan's experience battling Mike Pollitt and Jimmy Baker for the championship of Indiana, plus the requisite "win" over "Mouse" Strauss hardly prepared him to conquer the world, even if it was just the IBF's small portion of the world. Reported workouts against "world-class" sparring partners weren't enough, either.

"To be honest, I was expecting a tougher fight," said Hilton, who could hardly remember being hit. "Sometimes my toughest fights turn out to be the easiest and my easiest turn out to be the toughest, so I wasn't taking any chances."

With convoluted logic, the loser blamed his brief showing on a slow start, saying, "I wish I coulda' went more rounds. I usually become a better fighter in the late rounds. I fought anybody they put in there with me, and I beat all of them. I'll probably get my chance again."

But it was Hilton's cornerman, Al Braverman, who defended the challenger's record most vigorously.

"What record are you talking about?" he bristled



Canadian Matthew Hilton celebrates an easy victory over mismatched Jack Callahan in Atlantic City. The win was Hilton's first successful defense of his IBF junior middleweight title.

at a reporter with the self-serving indignation of one caught red-handed. "It's 24 and 0, and I don't give a (blank) what anybody says!"

Added Hilton, more politely, "My last fight went 15 tough rounds, and if it was up to me every fight would be like that. But that's up to my father. I don't really care about the names."

The unbeaten Hilton, who won his 28th, is obviously serious about developing under trainer Jimmy Ellis into a champion who lives up to all that the name implies.

"Right now, I'm a champion," said Hilton. "But what I'm really looking forward to is being a super fighter."

That will happen only if those around him let him. If they think this kind of defensive matching is making it easy, they're killing him with kindness.

Patrick Lumumba, 196, Kenya, won a unanimous decision over Alfonso Ratliff, 202½, Chicago, in a rugged, but sloppy 10. The African started strong, having the shot ex-titleholder in trouble with combination punching in the second. But Ratliff used his experience to inch his way into the fight until Lumumba caught a second wind. Ratliff staggered him with a sneak counter late in the ninth, but was too wilted to put over a finisher.

James "Quick" Tillis, 226, Chicago, KO'd Dennis Jackson, 206, San Juan, at 0:50 of the fifth, scheduled 10. The overweight loser folded and didn't seem to care.

Al "Bumblebee" Long, 147, San Diego, won a unanimous decision over Al "UFO" Hamza, 143¼, Chicago, in a dreadfully dull 10. Long boxed smoothly, but the lackadaisical alien offered so little opposition it was like "Bumblebee" was working with a net.

Renaldo "Little Red" Carter, 117½, Detroit, impressed, taking out Juan Camaro, 115¾, Dallas, with a left-hook knockdown at 1:30 of the second, scheduled six.

Returning Arthur Hall, 179½, Irvington, NJ, was awarded an undeserved split draw with rugged brawler Freddie Del Gado, 182, San Juan, in a roughhouse, infighting four.

Rodolfo Marin, 207, San Juan, had nothing in front of him and KO'd Chris Furry, 195, Cambridge, Ohio, with two knockdowns at 2:07 of the first, scheduled four.

Promoter/Matchmaker: Don King.
Referees: Rudy Battle (title match), Ted Pick & Steve Smoger.
Television: HBO.
Judges: Rocky Castellani, Gary Merritt & Bernie Cormier (title match) & Lynne Carter, Charlie Spina & Al DeVito.
Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.
Announcer: Mike Buffer.
Attendance: 12,034.
(10-16-87)

J.R. JOWETT

WITHERSPOON-WILLIAMS

ATLANTIC CITY, NJ—AFTER eking out a 10-round, split decision win, former WBC and WBA heavyweight champion Tim Witherspoon, 217, Philadelphia, saw fit to preface his post-fight remarks by stating that a four-day old head and chest cold had hindered his performance at Resorts Hotel-Casino.

Wasn't it Marlon Starling who recently said that after every fight there's an injury (excuse)? Yeah, but he didn't mean from the winner. Let's hope Witherspoon truly was sick, for his sake and the sake of boxing. We sure could use some legitimate contenders.

Witherspoon's opponent was the 13-0 Mike Williams, 222, Houston. While voted *The Ring's* "Prospect of the Year" in 1986, Williams still has to graduate, though he is capable of closing the gap on the leaders who, excepting Mike Tyson and Michael Spinks, can be generous in their ring failings.

Round One went to Witherspoon by virtue of one single chopping right hand and a closing left-right. Williams appeared uneasy. Was this to be Witherspoon's second easy win since he lost the WBA title last December to "Bonecrusher" Smith? Would Witherspoon brush away Williams as he had Mark Wills, who went out in one? Williams had the answer, and it was a resounding no.

The younger man decided to go for a ride on his bike. Along the way, he found a possible path to victory. For the next few sessions, he moved nimbly about, causing the lumbering stride of Witherspoon to look downright octogenarian in contrast. Williams got the pestering jab in fine working order, and it seemed that when Witherspoon least expected it, Williams would stop to fire some semi-serious combinations. The strategy proved rather effective.

If Witherspoon had a plan, it was beginning to pay off. It was he who took all the votes for the seventh and eighth as Williams was showing the audience that he wasn't quite ready to go 10 busy rounds with a rated fighter.

Occasionally, Witherspoon would score to the body, but on the outside all he could muster up was a most awkward and reaching right hand that no self-respecting trainer would ever claim to have taught him. Witherspoon may have been winning the war with the body attack, but he was losing the battles. After six, Williams had a shutout on one card, a two-point lead on the second, with the third being even.

At the end of the sixth, cornerman Eddie Aliano began to give Witherspoon's arms a good rubbing. He must have the magic touch because, though Round Seven began in sluggish fashion, Witherspoon got pumped up as the seconds ticked away, again working the body well.

If Witherspoon had a plan, it was beginning to pay off. It was he who took all the votes for the seventh and eighth as Williams was showing the audience that he wasn't quite ready to go 10 busy rounds with a rated fighter. He was losing his zip, but not his heart. The slower Williams got, the more robust Witherspoon became.

The ninth round proved the turning point as well as the fight's best for action. Witherspoon bulled Williams to the ropes and worked him over pretty good with that crude, chopping right doing the bulk of the damage. But Williams broke loose to let Witherspoon know he was still around as even exchanges punctuated the closing minute.

Round 10 was slow and sloppy in comparison, but Witherspoon was on a roll and did just enough in the hustle department to have a slight advantage even though the judges were divided in their scoring, one giving the session to Witherspoon, one to Williams and the third scoring it even.

Witherspoon, who brought his record to 27-3 with 18 KOs, got the scores of 97-94 from Tommy Kaczmarek and 96-94 from Eva Shain, while Richard Strange saw fit to honor Williams with a rather wide 98-92 total, going against the tide to give Williams rounds one and nine. *The Ring* card had it 95-95, giving Witherspoon the first round and the last four.

Cold or no cold, Witherspoon needed a fight such as this one. Ten rounds in the ring are worth 100 in the gym. The former champ knew he had to go on, saying, "I felt obligated. It was the right time and the right place, a couple of days before the Tyson fight and all the press in town."

Evaluating his performance, Witherspoon said, "I didn't get it done in the first round when I should have. The cold weakened me, and I just couldn't get it together. I know I can do better than this. At least I didn't lose. I thought my whole career was at stake in the last three rounds. It gave me fear and motivation."

On Williams, he said, "I knew that he had been doing a lot of small punching to try and impress the judges, but I felt like I was the aggressor."

Williams remarked, "This did nothing but boost my confidence. I'll be back in the gym real soon to work

on my mistakes." According to Williams, mistakes to be corrected include holding his hands higher, keeping busy and not waiting for his opponent to come to him. At least he's thinking in the right groove.

The semi 10 saw Marino "El Gato" Ramirez, 123½, Paterson, NJ, take a unanimous decision over Johnny "Dancing Machine" Carter, 122¾, Philadelphia. Ramirez had had some recent losses at 130 pounds, so a drop back to his natural poundage seemed a fine tonic. Carter was slick in Round One, but after that Ramirez, switching leads, batted his way to scores of 97-93 from Kaczmarek and Shain, while Strange saw it 96-94. *The Ring* card read 98-92.

David Jones, 140, Clementon, NJ, won by TKO at 2:53 of the first of a scheduled four over Howard Rhodes, 135, Jersey City, NJ. Rhodes was dropped once by a left hook.

Bobby Brown, 147, Brigantine, NJ, shook off a sloppy first round to come back and stop Jerome Hill, 145, Jersey City, at 1:51 of the third of a scheduled six. While there were no knockdowns, Hill was clearly hurt in Round Two and again in the third before referee Joe O'Neil halted the bout.

Tim Gates, 212, Pleasantville, NJ, took a boring, four-round unanimous decision over switch-hitting Garing Lane, 278¼, Hillcrest, Maryland. Scores: Kaczmarek and Shain at 39-37, Strange at 40-36.

Promoter: Top Rank.
Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.
Television: ESPN.
Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner & Ron Katz.
Referees: Joe O'Neil & Paul Venti.
(10-14-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

VASQUEZ-PARK

WBA Bantamweight Title

SEOUL, KOREA—PUERTO Rico's Wilfredo Vasquez, 117¼, displayed his power punching, dropping Chan-Yung Park, 117½, three times before pummeling him into submission at 0:43 of the 10th session in a scheduled 15-round bout.

The victory gave Vasquez the WBA bantamweight title that Park was defending for the first time since taking it from Takuya Muguruma in 11 hard-fought rounds May 24, 1987.

Some 2,500 partisan fans gloomily watched Park surrender as he turned his back on the challenger's onslaught at the Convention Center of the Seoul Hilton Hotel.

Vasquez had proven he was a hard puncher when he dropped unbeaten WBC champ Happy Lora and closed his right eye, though losing a unanimous decision to Lora (116-113, 115-112 and 116-112) February 8, 1986. Before that crack at the WBC throne, Wilfredo had scored 24 consecutive wins after losing his 1981 pro debut.

The ring physician and Park's cornermen worked on the badly hurt champion as the recess between rounds dragged on for two minutes and 15 seconds without a bell! Meanwhile, the seconds of Vasquez shouted, "Begin the next round!"

Park started very well, scoring with accurate, stinging jabs in the first round. Vasquez looked bewildered by the superior speed of the defending champ. In the second stanza, Vasquez threw heavy but slower blows at the peekaboo stylist Park, who retaliated with flurries that occasionally rocked Vasquez.

The third and fourth sessions were taken by Park as he penetrated the open guard of Vasquez with sharp one-two combos and almost toppled the challenger in the closing seconds of the fourth.

The unexpectedly good start may have changed Park's original fight plan of using hit-and-run tactics. The 5-6 Korean started to mix with Vasquez in an effort to finish the affair. His overconfidence and his under-estimation of Vasquez' power was costly as, with a minute left in Round Five, Vasquez exploded a lethal countering right to the champ's button. It was such a devastating blow that Park collapsed, flat. Incredibly enough, Park did beat the count. The Korean, with rubber legs, barely lasted the round and returned to his corner like a sleep-walker, bleeding from a wide gash at the left eyebrow.

The ring physician and Park's cornermen worked

Chan-Yung Park drops to the canvas during his bout with Wilfredo Vasquez in Seoul, Korea. Vasquez won the WBA bantamweight title with a 10th-round TKO.

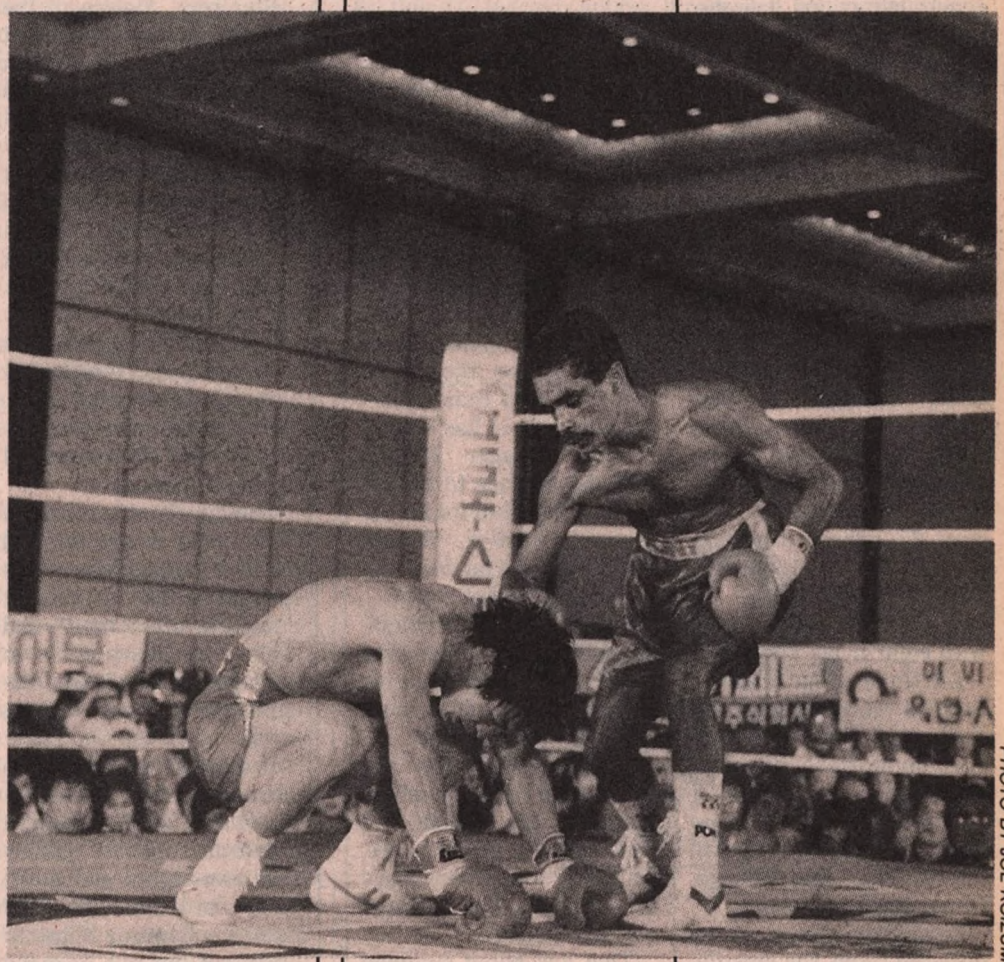


PHOTO BY JOE KOIZUMI

on the badly hurt champion as the recess between rounds dragged on for two minutes and 15 seconds without a bell! Meanwhile, the seconds of Vasquez shouted, "Begin the next round!"

With a sufficient rest, Park seemed to have recovered from the damage and scored with good combinations to take the sixth. The seventh canto saw Park batter his slower opponent with sharp left hooks to keep him off balance, but just before the bell Vasquez returned a well-timed, but light right, and Park went to a knee for an eight count.

Vasquez was the aggressor in the eighth and ninth rounds as the groggy Park was hammered one-sidedly. He tried to cover, but was floored again in the ninth, though referee Lou Moret generously called it a slip. However, the knockdown/slip seemed to deprive Park of his energy and fighting spirit.

In the 10th, Vasquez went all out for the kill, turning Park into a human dummy. Suddenly, the champ turned his back to retire, and the referee halted the proceedings and raised the hand of Vasquez.

Each contestant suffered heavy damage, the new champ's right eye puffing, while the dethroned champ appeared thoroughly exhausted and dejected. Vasquez, 27, improved his credentials to 23-3-1 with 20 knockouts, while the 24-year-old Park fell to 25-4-2 with eight KOs.

All three judges, Carlos Barocal, Marcos Torres and Kashiwaki Ryoji had Vasquez comfortably ahead at the finish.

"I had confidence to bring back the world title to Puerto Rico," said Vasquez. "I was the better man.

Laying on a table in his dressing room, the crestfallen Park said faintly, "Vasquez was strong."

Won-Bok Lee, Park's business manager, was asked, "Why did you select such a dangerous challenger as Vasquez?"

Major Lee, as the Korean people call him, replied, "Watching videotapes of all the challengers, Park himself decided to prefer Vasquez because he looked the slowest of the top-notchers."

He may, however, be the strongest hitter of them all.

Los Angeles matchmaker Pol Tiglao indicated the first defense by Vasquez would be January 17 in Osaka, Japan, against Muguruma.

Promoter: Hyun-Chi Kim's Dong-A Promotions.
WBA witness: Antonio Barrandino of Italy.
(10-4-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

RAMIREZ-BOZA-EDWARDS

WBC Lightweight Title

PARIS, FRANCE—FOR YEARS Cornelius Boza-Edwards had demonstrated a remarkable ability to absorb punishment before coming back to overcome opponents.

But those years have caught up to the brave Ugandan, who runs a Mercedes garage in Las Vegas.

Still, manager Mickey Duff did manage to finagle one last title shot for his 31-year-old warrior, though Boza had been far from impressive in recent starts.

The result was predictable as WBC lightweight king Jose Luis Ramirez kept his crown with a fifth-round knockout at the Zenith.

Boza-Edwards did not speak with press members following his defeat, but Duff said he would retire, adding, "He was very brave this evening, but Ramirez was too strong."

That just about summed up matters. Ramirez took everything the former WBC super featherweight champ had left before hammering him into submission.

Boza-Edwards did not speak with press members following his defeat, but Duff said he would retire, adding, "He was very brave this evening, but Ramirez was too strong."

"He showed tremendous heart," Ramirez said of Boza-Edwards. "I thought he was going to go down in the first round, but he managed to hurt me in the second. I recovered very quickly and was able to knock him out more quickly than I had hoped beforehand."

Ramirez, fighting the 105th fight in a career that started when he was 14 in 1973, took some right jabs in the opening minute, then was caught with an unintentional low blow. But Ramirez scored with a good left and followed with a two-handed barrage that soon had Boza-Edwards reeling.

Ramirez kept pouring it on, landing a good right that hurt Boza-Edwards again, but the challenger somehow avoided the canvas and lasted to the bell.

Though Ramirez claimed to be hurt in the second round, it was not obvious to spectators as he caught Boza-Edwards time and again with heavy shots to the head, which caused the challenger's right eye to swell.

If Boza-Edwards did do damage, it came at the outset of the third session, a frame he opened quickly with two rights and a left hook to the head of Ramirez. Ramirez bounced back and the two engaged in some all-out slugging at mid-ring, with Boza-Edwards holding his own. However, by the time the challenger heard the bell, his eye was no longer just puffed, but cut.

Whatever hopes Boza-Edwards had were quickly dashed as Ramirez regained complete control in the fourth round. After taking a pasting, the challenger's face was bloody and swollen.

In the fifth and final frame, Ramirez continued scoring at will until a right to the head finally sent Boza-Edwards down. Lying face-down with his gloves covering his eyes, the veteran took referee Arthur Mercante's 10-count, the end coming at the one-minute mark.

At the finish, all three judges had Ramirez well in front, Miguel Donate of Puerto Rico and Italy's Giuseppe Ferrari calling it 40-36, while Carol Castellano of the United States saw it 40-35.

Ramirez, who recently turned 29, is also heading into the twilight of an outstanding career. He expressed interest in meeting the winner of the Edwin Rosario/Julio Cesar Chavez WBA title bout. That contest would be welcomed by *The Ring*, which would recognize the winner as world lightweight champion.

On the undercard, Mexican welterweight Genaro Leon made quick work of Frankie Lake, knocking him out in the first round of a scheduled eight. Leon, who was stopped in the first round of a 1984 Olympic quarterfinal by Mark Breland, dropped Lake quickly with a long right. Lake rose, but was dropped again by a right.

Taoufik Balbouli, born in Tunisia but now fighting out of France, stopped former WBC cruiserweight champion Marvin Camel in the third round of a scheduled eight. In obvious pain, the American southpaw suddenly backed away from Balbouli, his right arm dangling by his side. It was later discovered he had dislocated his shoulder.

French lightweight Jean-Baptiste Mendy scored an eight-round decision over Venezuela's Jose Mosqueda.

Welterweight Antoine Fernandez of France stopped Venezuela's Eduardo Brinoles in the fifth of a scheduled eight.

Heavyweight Anaclet Wamba decisioned Michigan's K.P. Porter over eight.
(10-8-87)

MITCHELL-LONDAS

WBA Jr. Lightweight Title

GRAVELINES, FRANCE—South African Brian Mitchell retained his WBA junior lightweight title with a unanimous, 15-round decision over French champion Daniel Londas.

Mitchell floored the 33-year-old Londas twice, the first time at the end of Round Three, the second at the close of Round 12. Londas came back in rounds 13 and 14, but fell far short as Mitchell, who was making his third title defense, won the votes of the judges.

Mitchell was strong, but unimpressive. Londas just wasn't able to do any damage. Thus, the fight dragged by at a slow pace.

On the undercard, former WBA super bantamweight champion Bernardo Pinango of Venezuela was held to a draw over eight rounds by French featherweight Farid Benredjeb.

Pinango was decked in the first round by the quick-starting Benredjeb, but finished strong, though he was warned twice for low blows.

The European light welterweight championship bout between defending champion Tex N'Kalankete and Mohammed Kawoya didn't last as long as the main event, but provided a lot more thrills than the Mitchell/Londas bore.

Kawoya, previously from Denmark but now based in Austria, hadn't fought for 21 months, but he started strong against the Zaire-born N'Kalankete.

In the midst of a free-swinging, third-round exchange, N'Kalankete suddenly scored with a powerful left-right combination that dropped Kawoya. He was on the canvas for at least a minute.

An eight-round bantamweight bout saw Herve Jacob, Calais, outpoint Venezuela's Edgar Roman.

Herve's two older brothers also won, Bruno outpointing Mexico's Arturo Hernandez in an eight-round lightweight match, while Thierry won an eight-round verdict from Mexico's Juan Castellanos in a featherweight bout.
(10-3-87)

ROSI-AQUINO

WBC Super Welterweight Title

PERUGIA, ITALY—IN A major upset, Italy's Gianfranco Rosi lifted the WBC super welterweight title from San Diego's Lupe Aquino.

Though Rosi was a huge underdog, a crowd of approximately 4,000 rocked the Palazzo Del A Sport in support of its challenger, and Rosi responded with the fight of his life.

The decision in the 12-rounder was unanimous, judges Steve Smoger of New Jersey and Adrian Morgan of Wales voting 115-114, while England's Larry O'Connell seemed to be closer to the truth at 118-113.

The 30-year-old Rosi weighed 153½ to Aquino's 154 in improving his record to 40-2 with 12 knockouts, one of the losses being to British former world welterweight champion Lloyd Honeyghan, who flattened the Italian in three rounds three years ago. Aquino, who appeared sluggish, fell to 31-3-1 with 22 knockouts in losing his first defense of the title he won from Duane Thomas.

Though Rosi was a huge underdog, a crowd of approximately 4,000 rocked the Palazzo Del A Sport in support of its challenger, and Rosi responded with the fight of his life.

The challenger surprised Aquino by starting quickly, showing good speed and unexpected aggression as he scored with combinations, then tied up the champion before Aquino could retaliate. Aquino took the initiative in the second round, bulling forward as he switched from southpaw to righty, but Rosi was unharmed, though Aquino managed to take the frame.

Rosi continued his movement in the third, and Aquino began walking after him with his hands down. But the champion's punches were wild, and Rosi did damage by stopping long enough to fire quick combos before tying up the titleholder.

Aquino appeared to get a break when he opened a cut over Rosi's right eye in the fourth round. Soon, the challenger's face and trunks were smeared with blood. The wound, though closed between rounds by his corner, seemed to create some desperation in Rosi, and the Italian started the fifth as if he was trying to end the bout before the cut worsened. Aquino couldn't seem to fathom what was happening as Rosi swarmed over him, landing well with combinations. He also landed well with his elbow and threw a few punches on the break for good measure. American referee Joe Cortez failed to take any action, and Rosi smiled at Aquino as the befuddled titleholder headed for his corner at the end of the frame.

Rosi, continuing to hit on the break, also dominated the sixth, but the pace slowed in the next round as he did little but grab Aquino. The rest did wonders for the challenger, whose punches appeared sharp again in the eighth. Meanwhile, Aquino seemed to be winding down.

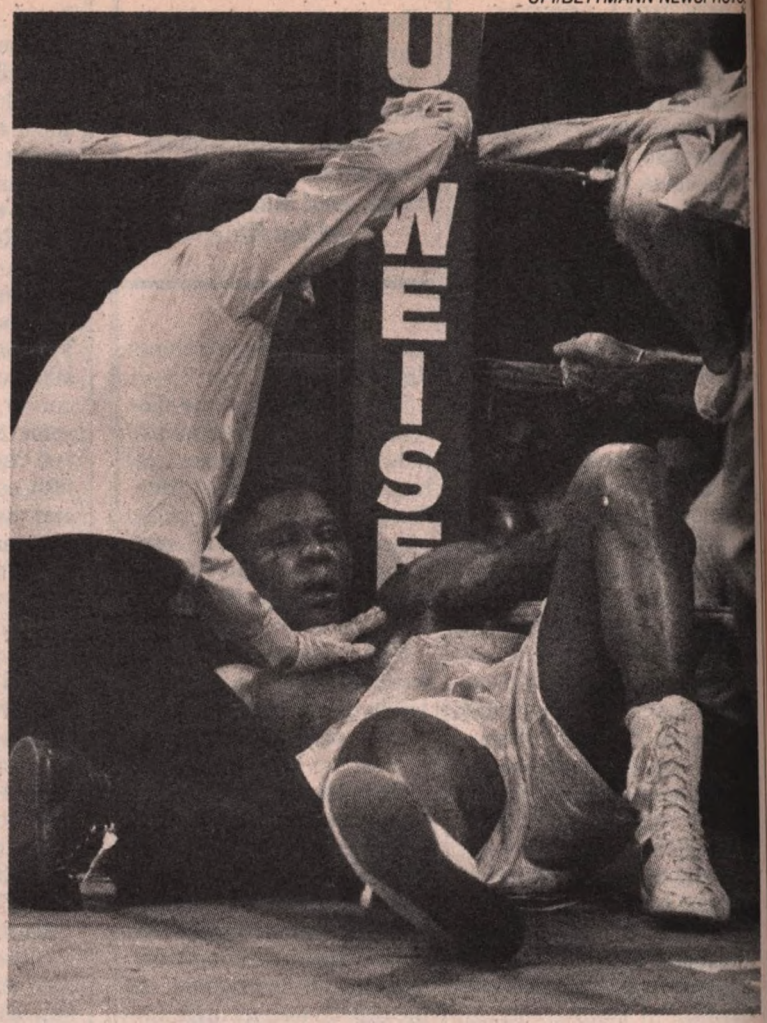
Aquino did score with a solid left hook with about a minute left in the ninth, but he missed a follow-up hook, and Rosi quickly put him under wraps. With 10 seconds remaining in the round, Rosi regained command with a solid right.

Aquino tried to turn the tide as the 10th began, but before the round was half over Rosi was boxing his ears off. In the 11th, Aquino was doing the holding, with Rosi throwing him around the ring. Feeling he was ahead, Rosi was content to stay out of danger in the last three minutes as Aquino tried in vain for the knockout.

After, Rosi said through an interpreter, "I was prepared for all events. I was prepared for everything. I couldn't feel anything."

England's James Cook, 164, scored a sensational win on the undercard when he flattened Aquino's stablemate Willie Wilson, 162, with just two minutes left in a bristling six-rounder. What made the conclusion spectacular was that Wilson had easily won the first five rounds before Cook unloaded an uppercut that dropped him for the count.

Efrem Calamati, 134½, Arezzo, Italy, scored an eight-round decision win over Malaga Spain's Fernando Blanco, who also weighed 134½. Calamati, a 23-year-old who raised his mark to 16-0 with eight knockouts, dropped Blanco with a right in the third and forced him to take a standing eight in the fifth. Blanco dropped to 22-6 with five KOs.
(10-2-87)



It's all over for Tyrell Biggs as referee Tony Orlando stops his bout with Mike Tyson in the seventh round. Tyson punished Biggs from the start, successfully defending his combined WBC, WBA and IBF heavyweight belts.

UPI/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTO

Spinks a Bridesmaid Once Again As Holmes Is Next For Tyson

BIGGS BASHED!

by Nigel Collins

YOU HAD TO WONDER WHAT LARRY Holmes was thinking as he watched Mike Tyson rip apart Tyrell Biggs at Atlantic City Convention Hall. Seated with his wife Diane and dressed in a navy blue business suit, the bespectacled Holmes looked more like a banker than the former heavyweight champion of the world.

Maybe Holmes was thinking like a banker. Maybe he was calculating how to invest the $3 million purse which lured him out of retirement to fight Tyson. Then again, maybe he was thinking like a fighter, looking for flaws he might turn to his advantage when he faces the division's most feared slugger since prime-time Joe Frazier.

Perhaps the "Easton Assassin" even flashed back to the evening of October 2, 1980 in Las Vegas. In those days, he was the young stud anxious to erase any doubt of his position on top of the heavyweight heap. Someone else was the aging ex-champ trying to recapture the magic of his youth. It was Muhammad Ali's turn to bite the bullet on that particular occasion. But what goes around comes around, especially in boxing. Holmes' date with Tyson (January 22) just might be the day Larry finally gets whipped, chopped and pureed.

The first bell for the Tyson-Biggs slaughter was still 48 hours away when promoter Don King began beating the drum for Tyson-Holmes. What the hell? HBO had already paid millions to broadcast the match King christened "The Clash For The Crown" and all 12,034 seats set up by the Trump Plaza were filled. Why not get a jump on the next extravaganza?

While few outside Biggs' camp gave him a chance of winning, a lot of people figured the 1984 Olympic super heavyweight champion had the tools (size, a jab and good lateral movement) to give Tyson a decent fight. They were wrong!

The week leading up to Tyson's first defense of his unified Alphabet crown was highlighted by spiteful bickering between the fighters' management. It came to a head at the final press conference two days before the fight.

Tyson's co-manager Jim Jacobs, normally known for his aristocratic demeanor, got fed up with Lou Duva's crazyman act and got down and dirty. He told the media gathering that Biggs' own management had called their boxer a "mental case." Jacobs also said he and Tyson's co-manager, Bill Cayton, had helped influence HBO to accept Renaldo Snipes and David Bey as opponents for Biggs in an effort to help their "close friend" Shelly Finkel (Biggs' co-manager) prolong Tyrell's precarious career.

The mud-slinging on both sides was far more competitive than the fight proved to be, prompting Tyson to comment, "This press conference has been exciting, but distasteful."

Hindsight certainly gives added weight to Jacobs' claims. Biggs, whose pro career has been marred by inconsistent performances and a bout with drug abuse, never even threatened to give Tyson a tussle. If Duva and Finkel threw Tyrell in with Tyson to reap a buck before it was too late, the only thing they can be accused of is good management. Even Biggs benefited, earning a bigger payday against Tyson than if he had come apart at the hands of a second-rater ... as almost happened against Bey.

Whatever the behind-the-scenes story really was, Biggs was as unprepared to challenge Tyson as Haile Selassie was to repel Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia.

Biggs entered the ring first decked out in a white satin robe trimmed with fringe and red sequins. The outfit, which looked like something Roy Rogers would wear to a dude ranch hoedown, bore the inscription "Realize Your Potential."

Perhaps he did?

Tyson, an obvious favorite with the crowd, wore his three championship belts, one around his waist, the other two hooked together and slung around his neck. No wonder this guy doesn't wear a robe. He's got enough belts to keep his tummy warm.

Following referee Tony Orlando's instructions, Tyson got his customary kiss from trainer Kevin Rooney, then tore out of his corner after Biggs.

Biggs, 228¾, boxed fairly well in the opening session. He frequently switched the direction of his movement, staying away from Tyson's power and scoring with left jabs. His retreat was ungainly at times, but at least he wasn't getting tagged—yet.

Though Tyson, 216, missed a number of roundhouse swings, he kept his cool and creased Biggs with a legal right to the body which brought a needless warning from Orlando. Mike also delivered a thumping right to the noggin. The two blows might have convinced Biggs his was a lost cause.

Biggs was never the same fighter again.

The challenger started to unravel in the second. He began to push his jab instead of throwing it and forgot all about alternating his line of retreat. The handwriting was not only on the wall, it was etched on Biggs' face. When Tyson wobbled him with a left hook, Tyrell mugged at the crowd as if to say he wasn't hurt. But, of course, he was. Then, after Tyson drew a warning from Orlando for punching after the bell, Biggs returned to his corner looking aghast. What had he expected, Olympic rules?

Before several of his recent bouts, Tyson has answered his opponent's threats by saying, "They all have plans until I hit them the first time." This was surely the case with Biggs. By Round Three, Tyrell was already into his survival mode. And who could blame him? At one point, Tyson leapt through the air a la Floyd Patterson and landed a "kangaroo" left hook which connected flush on the side of Biggs' face.

"One informed individual who thinks Holmes has made a big mistake is Eddie Futch, who trained Larry for most of his best fights."

By the end of the round, Biggs was bleeding from a gash over his left eye, his chest and trunks covered in his own blood. An abrasion under his right eye would come later, along with a cut inside the mouth. The ringside doctor took the first of several long looks at Biggs between the third and fourth rounds, but allowed the rout to continue.

By Round Four, Biggs was reduced to soaking up punishment and desperately grabbing Tyson around the ears with both gloves in an effort to stave off the inevitable. Tyson dished out a methodical beating. While his left hook was working overtime, he also made far better use of his jab and body punches than in recent outings. It looked like "Iron Mike" was capable of ending matters then and there, but he apparently wanted to punish Biggs for his pre-fight braggadocio.

"I could have knocked him out in the third round, but I wanted to do it very slowly," said Tyson. "I wanted him to remember this for a long time. He talked too much. I wanted to make him pay for everything he said."

Unfortunately for Biggs, he also paid for everything Lou Duva said.

There was also an element of dirtiness to Tyson's work. Despite the fact he was wasting Biggs with a truck-load of legal blows, Tyson continued to indulge himself in a full range of fouls. In the fifth, he nailed Biggs on the break. But the tactic backfired, giving Biggs time to clear his head while the referee lectured Tyson on some of the finer points of the rule book.

The number of clinches mounted as Biggs grew more and more desperate. In Round Six, he frequently looked like he was about to pass out as he rested his battered head on Tyson's shoulder during their many embraces. Covered in blood and drained of all energy, the challenger presented a pitiful picture. Why his corner permitted him to carry on is anyone's guess. Maybe his handlers were as angry at him as Tyson was.

Tyson brought the curtain down on the bout and probably Biggs' boxing career in the seventh. A thunderbolt left hook to the head knocked Biggs down and almost out of the ring. He skidded to a halt halfway onto the apron, his body draped over the bottom rope. Calling on courage many felt he didn't possess, Tyrell dragged himself erect by the count of nine and gamely faced his tormentor one final time.

A right and another left hook, and not a particularly good one at that, put Biggs down again and Orlando waved it over at 2:59. So ended Tyson's most devastating showing since he iced Trevor Berbick for the WBC belt, November 22, 1986 in Vegas. The victory raised his pro log to 32-0 with 28 KOs, while the forlorn Biggs sagged to 15-1 with 10 KOs.

However, Tyson's dominating performance did not draw rave revues

from the man who will next share the ring with him (Holmes) or the man who most fans would rather see him fight, Michael Spinks.

"It was a bad fight," said Holmes. "Tyson didn't look that good to me tonight. He fought dirty. I saw a guy who throws a lot of elbows. I saw a guy who butts. I saw a guy who hits after the bell. If he fights me dirty, that's the kind of fight it's gonna' be all night."

Does Holmes think his long layoff will adversely affect him against Tyson?

"Sometimes a layoff is the best thing for you," answered Holmes. "I've got that desire again to go out there one more time and show the people who the real heavyweight champ is. If I didn't think I was going to win, I wouldn't get in the ring. I'm gonna' knock this guy out."

Spinks, meanwhile, was mildly encouraged when Jacobs reversed his field and admitted "(Spinks) is in our future" after repeatedly saying Tyson would never fight the man *The Ring* considers the genuine heavyweight champion.

"Yeah, but he still didn't say when," said Spinks with a wry smile.

And what was Spinks' opinion of the way Tyson thrashed Biggs?

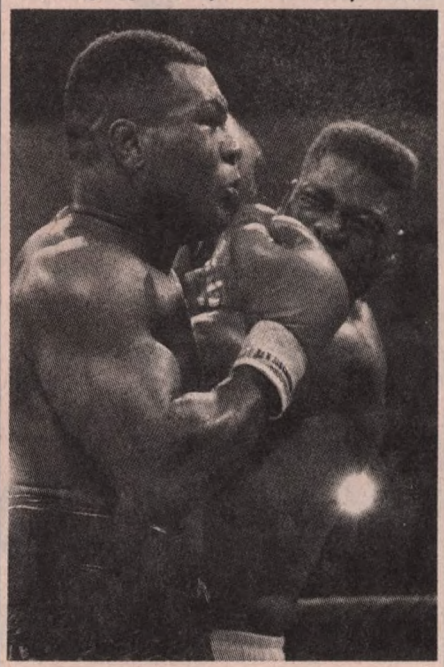
"It was typical Tyson. He was a wild man. He tries to hit you anywhere, anyhow. But I think with the right preparation and the stuff I use (in the ring), it's gonna' be tough for him to hurt me. I think my chances are good."

What are the chances of Holmes upsetting Tyson before Spinks gets a crack?

Well, Tyson will definitely be facing the most experienced boxer he's ever fought. But as Spinks twice proved, the years have taken their toll on this once great fighting machine. Holmes' legs have lost much of their spring and those all-important reflexes have dulled more than a tad. Nevertheless, Holmes should present Tyson with a helluva lot tougher proposition than Biggs.

When it comes to the rough stuff, Holmes knows what to do. While his thumb may not be in the same league as Harry Greb's or Fritzie Zivic's, it's not too far behind. Then there is the intimidation factor. Many of Tyson's foes are scared half to death before they duck between the ropes. Holmes will not be cowed. Remember how he literally picked Spinks up and threw him to the ground in the early going of their rematch? When it comes to physical one-upmanship, Larry is a past master.

Tyson (foreground) and Biggs get to know each other up close and personal during their Atlantic City mismatch. Biggs offered little more than a moving target and Tyson won as he pleased.



UPI/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTO

> *"A thunderbolt left hook to the head knocked Biggs down and almost out of the ring. He skidded to a halt halfway onto the apron, his body draped over the bottom rope."*

One informed individual who thinks Holmes has made a big mistake is Eddie Futch, who trained Larry for most of his best fights.

"I know what Larry is thinking: it's what Tyson can't do," said Futch. "But what Tyson can do is too much for what Larry has left. Anybody with an iota of tactical wisdom would go after the body and take away his legs. Then, if he can't move, he'd have to stand there and fight Tyson."

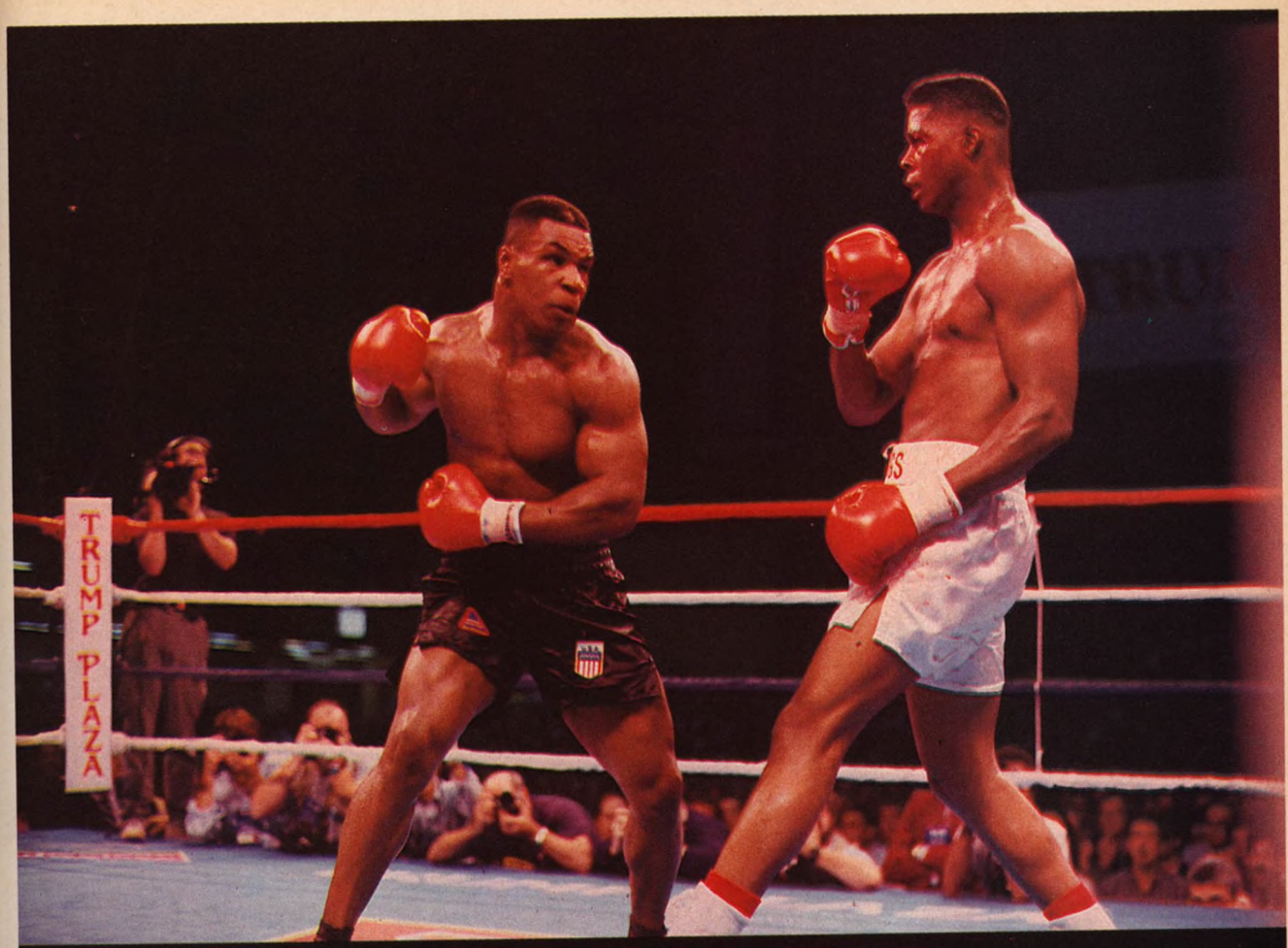
Ah, there's the rub! What happens when Holmes is forced to trade with Tyson? The combined WBA, WBC and IBF champ may not be as tricky a boxer as Spinks, who befuddled Holmes with herky-jerky movement, but his hands are just as fast and his wallop registers 10 on the Richter scale.

Besides Holmes, there have been four former heavyweight champions who have come out of retirement to try to regain the title:

Jim Corbett was inactive for two years following his 1900 kayo loss to Jim Jeffries. In their 1903 rematch, Jeffries polished off "Gentleman Jim" in less than 10 heats. Jeffries, of course, was lured off his farm after six years of easy living to face Jack Johnson and was brutally beaten and stopped in 15 rounds. Even the immortal Joe Louis, who hadn't fought since he kayoed Jersey Joe Walcott in June of 1948, failed when he returned to combat against Ezzard Charles in September of 1950. Only Ali has been able to regain the heavyweight championship after a lengthy retirement. But his case was different. Ali had been forced into exile while at the peak of his powers, rather than stepping down due to old age or a thrashing.

While Holmes is probably not as far gone as Corbett, Jeffries and Louis were at the time of their ill-advised comebacks, he's still a long way from the Larry Holmes who reigned supreme over the heavyweight division during the late 70s and early 80s. I envision a grueling contest with Holmes' pride and experience giving Tyson the toughest fight of his career to date. But when the smoke clears and the blood is washed away, Tyson will still be undefeated.

Then all Tyson has to do to prove he really is the best heavyweight in the world is beat Spinks. □



PHOTOS BY WILL HART/TRUMP PLAZA

The RING RATINGS AS OF OCTOBER 30, 1987

HEAVYWEIGHTS (No Weight Limit) WORLD CHAMPION

MICHAEL SPINKS	St. Louis, Mo.
1. **Mike Tyson**	Catskill, N.Y.
2. **Evander Holyfield**	Atlanta, Ga.
3. **Tony Tucker**	Grand Rapids, Mich.
4. **Tim Witherspoon**	Philadelphia, Pa.
5. **Pinklon Thomas**	Pontiac, Mich.
6. **Carl Williams**	New York
7. **Trevor Berbick**	Florida
8. **Adilson Rodrigues**	Brazil
9. **Tyrell Biggs**	Philadelphia, Pa.
10. **Carlos DeLeon**	Puerto Rico

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS (Not Over 175 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT	
1. **Charles Williams**	Mansfield, Ohio
2. **Virgil Hill**	Grand Forks, N.D.
3. **Bobby Czyz**	Wanaque, N.J.
4. **Leslie Stewart**	Trinidad
5. **Dennis Andries**	England
6. **Ramzi Hassan**	Campo, Cal.
7. **Eddie Davis**	New York
8. **Chong-Pal Park**	Korea
9. **Lindell Holmes**	Detroit, Mich.
10. **Joe Lasisi**	Nigeria

MIDDLEWEIGHTS (Not Over 160 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT	
1. **Thomas Hearns**	Detroit, Michigan
2. **Marvin Hagler**	Brockton, Mass.
3. **Frank Tate**	Houston, Texas
4. **Sumbu Kalambay**	Italy
5. **Mike McCallum**	Jamaica
6. **Michael Nunn**	Sherman Oaks, Cal.
7. **Michael Olajide**	Canada
8. **Iran Barkley**	New York, N.Y.
9. **Matthew Hilton**	Canada
10. **Herol Graham**	England

WELTERWEIGHTS (Not Over 147 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

JORGE VACA	Mexico
1. **Marlon Starling**	Hartford, Conn.
2. **Lloyd Honeyghan**	England
3. **Maurice Blocker**	Washington, D.C.
4. **Mark Breland**	Brooklyn, N.Y.
5. **Simon Brown**	Washington, D.C.
6. **Rollin Williams**	Phoenix, Az.
7. **Juan Martin Coggi**	Argentina
8. **Tyrone Trice**	Detroit, Mich.
9. **Rene Arredondo**	Mexico
10. **Frankie Warren**	Corpus Christi, Tx.

LIGHTWEIGHTS (Not Over 135 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT	
1. **Edwin Rosario**	Puerto Rico
2. **Julio Cesar Chavez**	Mexico
3. **Vinny Pazienza**	Cranston, R.I.
4. **Pernell Whitaker**	Norfolk, Va.
5. **Jose Luis Ramirez**	Mexico
6. **Meldrick Taylor**	Philadelphia, Pa.
7. **Greg Haugen**	Auburn, Wash.
8. **Primo Ramos**	Mexico
9. **Rocky Lockridge**	Mt. Laurel, N.J.
10. **Amancio Castro**	Colombia

FEATHERWEIGHTS (Not Over 126 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA	Venezuela
1. **Azumah Nelson**	Ghana
2. **Steve Cruz**	Ft. Worth, Texas
3. **Calvin Grove**	Coatesville, Pa.
4. **Jeff Fenech**	Australia
5. **Louie Espinoza**	Phoenix, Az.
6. **Victor Callejas**	Puerto Rico
7. **Hector Lopez**	Glendale, Cal.
8. **Marcos Villasana**	Mexico
9. **Antonio Rivera**	Puerto Rico
10. **Lupe Suarez**	Corpus Christi, Texas

BANTAMWEIGHTS (Not Over 118 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

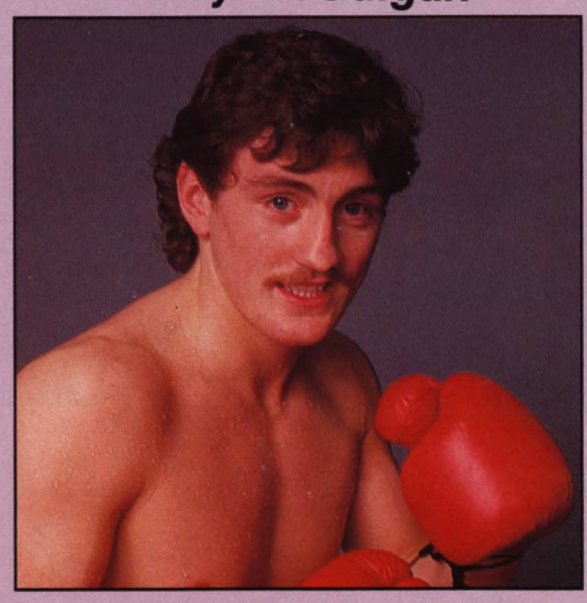
TITLE VACANT	
1. **Miguel Lora**	Colombia
2. **Kaosai Galaxy**	Thailand
3. **Sugar Baby Rojas**	Colombia
4. **Kelvin Seabrooks**	Charlotte, N.C.
5. **Raul Perez**	Mexico
6. **Wilfredo Vasquez**	Puerto Rico
7. **Santos Laciar**	Argentina
8. **Gilberto Roman**	Mexico
9. **Frankie Duarte**	Venice, California
10. **Gaby Canizales**	Laredo, Texas

FLYWEIGHTS (Not Over 112 Pounds) WORLD CHAMPION

SOT CHITALADA	Thailand
1. **Jung-Koo Chang**	Korea
2. **Fidel Bassa**	Colombia
3. **Myung-Woo Yuh**	Korea
4. **Hilario Zapata**	Panama
5. **Chang-Ho Choi**	Korea
6. **Gabriel Bernal**	*Mexico*
7. ***Dodie Penalosa***	*Philippines*
8. **Paul Gonzales**	Los Angeles, Cal.
9. **Benedicto Murillo**	Panama
10. **Duke McKenzie**	England

The RING CALENDAR FEBRUARY 1988

Barry McGuigan



1 MONDAY
1965—Floyd Patterson W12 George Chuvalo, *The Ring's* Fight of the Year.

2 TUESDAY
1891—Jack Dillon born in Frankfurt, Ind.

3 WEDNESDAY
1939—Melio Bettina TKO9 Tiger Jack Fox, won vacant light heavy title (NY version).

4 THURSDAY
1963—Jung-Koo Chang born Pusan, Korea.

5 FRIDAY
1977—Ray Leonard's pro debut, W6 Luis Vega.

6 SATURDAY
1963—Carlos Monzon's pro debut, KO2 Ramon Montenegro.

7 SUNDAY
1882—John L. Sullivan KO9 Paddy Ryan to become the last bare knuckle world champion.

8 MONDAY
1944—Tippy Larkin W10 Lulu Costantino (first time official scores were announced over loudspeaker).

9 TUESDAY
1931—Tommy Freeman KO5 Al Kober, successfully defending his welter title for the second time in four days.

10 WEDNESDAY
1919—Mickey Walker's pro debut, Dominic Orsini ND4.

11 THURSDAY
1909—Max Baer born Omaha, Nebraska.

12 FRIDAY
1941—Sammy Secreet & Pat Carroll score double KO in Detroit, 7th round.

13 SATURDAY
1982—Michael Spinks TKO6 Mustapha Wasajja, retained WBA light heavy title.

14 SUNDAY
1951—Ray Robinson TKO13 Jake LaMotta, won world middle title.

15 MONDAY
1970—Carlos Teo Cruz, wife and two children killed when Dominican airliner crashed into Caribbean.

16 TUESDAY
1970—Joe Frazier TKO5 Jimmy Ellis, won vacant world heavy title.

17 WEDNESDAY
1935—First world title bout in Spain. Freddie Miller KO1 Jose Girones, retained feather title.

18 THURSDAY
1933—James J. Corbett died Bayside, N.Y.

19 FRIDAY
1968—Joseph "Pep" Barone, manager of Sonny Liston, died of heart attack at age 66 in Allentown, Pa.

20 SATURDAY
1947—Phill Marder born Philadelphia, Pa.

21 SUNDAY
1937—First world title bout in Puerto Rico. Sixto Escobar W15 Lou Salica, retained bantam title.

22 MONDAY
1795—Tom Spring born Townhope, Herefordshire, England.

23 TUESDAY
1963—Dick Tiger D15 Gene Fullmer, retained WBA middle title.

24 WEDNESDAY
1897—Tommy Ryan TKO9 Tom Tracy, retained world welterweight championship.

25 THURSDAY
1964—Cassius Clay TKO7 Sonny Liston, won world heavy title (*The Ring's* Fight of the Year).

26 FRIDAY
1918—Terry McGovern died Brooklyn, N.Y.

27 SATURDAY
1971—Vincente Rondon KO6 Jimmy Dupree, won vacant WBA light heavy title.

28 SUNDAY
1961—Barry McGuigan born Monaghan, Ulster, Ireland.

29 MONDAY
1964—Ruben Olivares' pro debut, KO1 Freddy Garcia.

GOLD OUTSHINES THE GLITTER

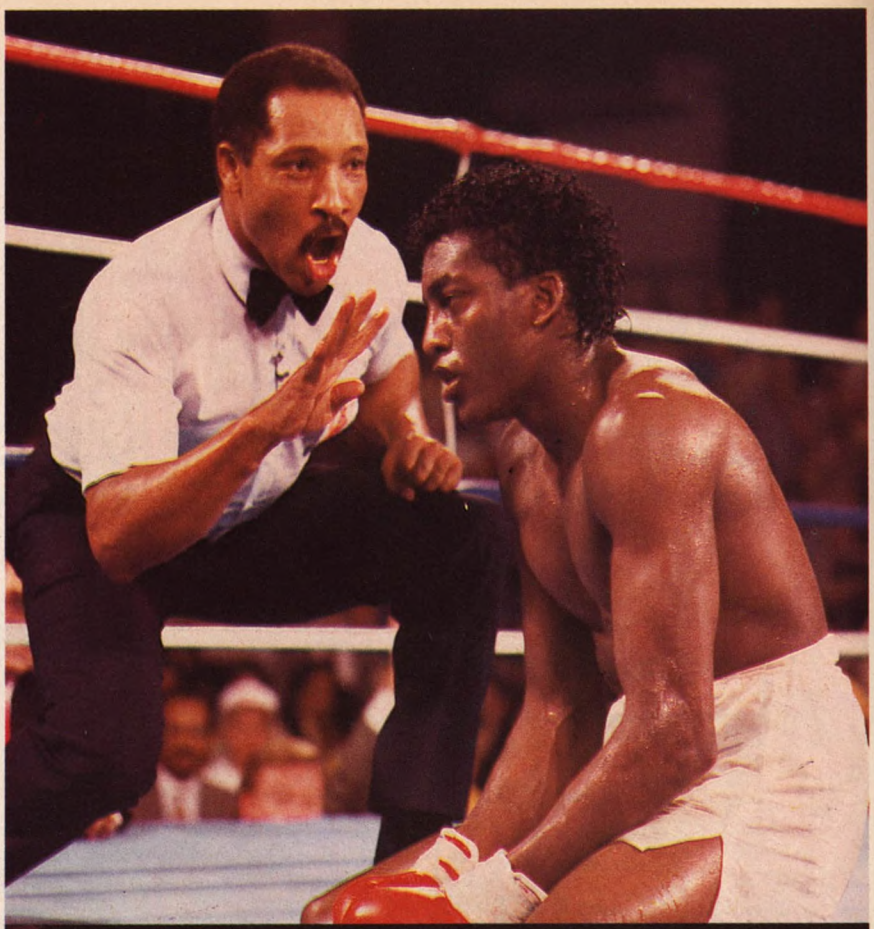
by Jack Welsh

Duran Might Be Next For New IBF Middleweight King

JUST ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE FRANK Tate's scintillating emergence as the new International Boxing Federation middleweight champion, a message arrived that the young fighter's future was in secure hands.

Even before he put a deep wrinkle in Michael Olajide's nom de plume as "The Silk" on a gorgeous October afternoon in Las Vegas, Tate's caring sponsor, the Houston Boxing Association, and a dedicated trainer named Jesse Reid were being pressured on future projections for the 23-year old transplanted Detroiter.

Strange, too, considering the Hollywood-handsome Olajide was the glamour side of this 15-round championship at Caesars Palace. Sure, well-tutored Tate matched the undefeated status of the flashy warrior who was born in Liverpool, reared in Vancouver, and is now based in New York. Yet when co-promoters Madison Square Garden and the HBA dubbed this fight "Glitter & Gold," it was clear which part of the sobriquet each fighter



PHOTOS BY CHRIS FARINA

Frank Tate rocks Michael "The Silk" Olajide into the ropes with a potent right to the jaw en route to a 15-round unanimous decision and the vacant IBF middleweight title.

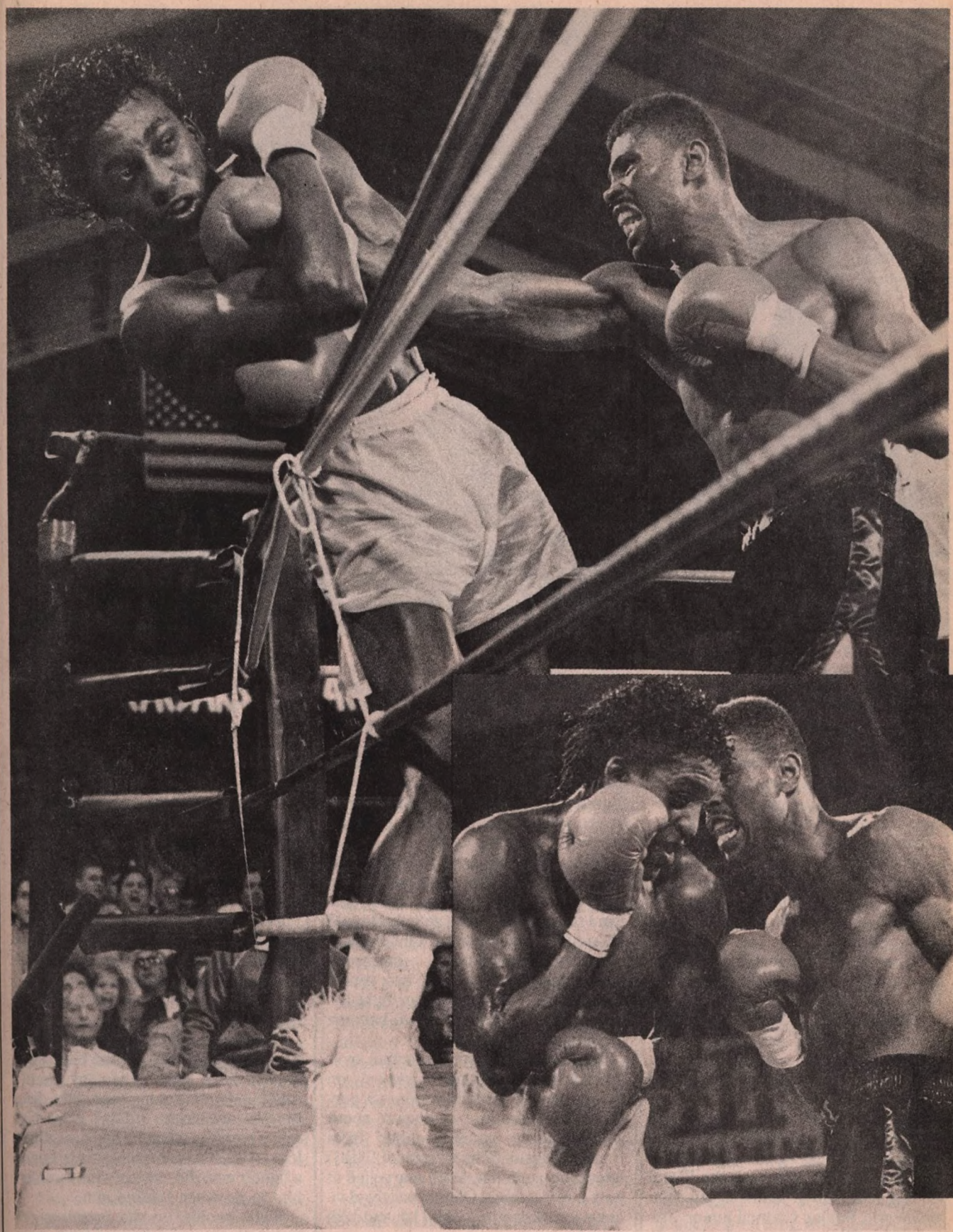
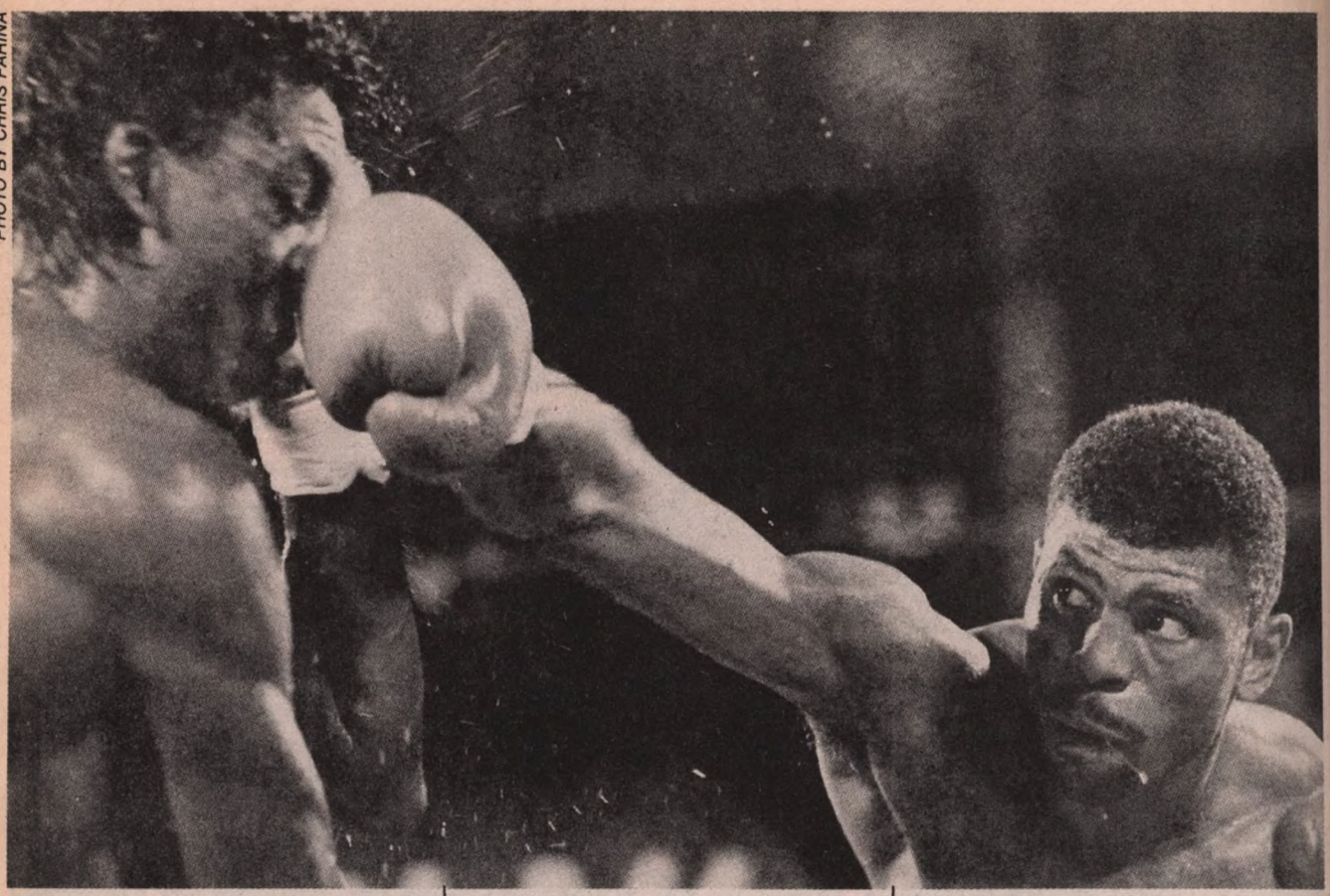


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Tate (right) and Olajide go toe-to-toe during their Las Vegas showdown. Tate's ability to control the action at both long range and close quarters contributed greatly to his triumph in a battle of unbeaten warriors.

Only the nose knows how this shot to Olajide's sneezer felt, but it was right hands such as this one which paved the way to victory for underdog Tate.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



shared.

Then too, Nevada's licensed bookmakers liked the way Olajide won 23 straight bouts (16 by kayo) and installed him as a 2-1 favorite to take the 160-pound crown made available when the IBF refused to recognize the now retired Sugar Ray Leonard after his victory over Marvelous Marvin Hagler.

Too bad some of the betting public couldn't have heard Reid reflecting on the new champion's development a couple of afternoons before the first bell in Caesars' bandbox known as the Sports Pavilion.

"Frank is very coachable, he has the drive and he wants to be champion. Tate can fight from any angle (as Olajide bitterly discovered), and he has a positive attitude," said the one-time middleweight who learned the conditioning arts from Jackie McCoy, his former mentor.

Tate is the latest of five titleholders Reid has been associated with, the most recent being Roger Mayweather and Bruce Curry, who won the World Boxing Association junior lightweight and World Boxing Council junior welterweight titles, respectively, both in 1983.

"Frank is going to punch this guy (Olajide) everywhere he can—head, body, arms, and he'll wear him down ... maybe even stop Olajide in the late rounds. HBA and Mrs. Josephine Abercrombie (the group's multi-millionaire founder) have a great regard for Frank in and out of the ring. He's a valued property," Reid reminded.

"Even after we beat Olajide we're not moving without analyzing every fight and seeing who's out there. We want time to develop. If somebody said '$2 million tomorrow to fight Hagler,' we'd say, 'no, not now ... but come back later. Maybe in one, two years.' We're in no rush for a super fight because we want Frank Tate to become a complete champion."

The bell ending superb action over the full distance sounded precisely on the stroke of mid-afternoon (3 p.m. PDT) and there was no dispute about a going-away winner—either from roaring ringsiders or a national (NBC) television audience. Both marvelled at how a rock-ribbed Olajide survived vicious knockdowns in the 11th and 12th rounds.

Caesars pitched a yellow tent as a press room appendage to the pavilion and the jump-suited Tate had hardly settled on the dais with an unfamiliar belt around his waist when press inquisitors jawed about a future challenger.

Remember, it was only minutes ago that this fast-rising boxer-puncher, who once trained as an amateur at Emanuel Steward's Kronk gym, was putting the final touches on his 21st straight victory.

Though Tate deserved to bask in the euphoria of the moment, insistent questioning about the victor's next opponent continued to punctuate a recap by Reid and his charge on how it all happened.

"Frank did a great job boxing," said Reid. "He worked from the blind side, and he didn't give Olajide any room. I told him to control his heart, take deep breaths and relax. I didn't want him to get careless when he had everything locked up. It's such a pleasure to coach a fighter who did exactly what I wanted him to do when I asked him."

Fight people on the premises envisioned an early defense next year,

probably with the HBA promoting it in the Texas city Tate adopted after he won the 156-pound gold medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Would you believe Roberto Duran was the first name out of the hopper? And Robert Spagnola, ex-amateur boxer and Tate's manager, strongly seconded the motion. Some media types, casting a jaundice eye on the proposal, drew Spagnola's obvious irritation.

"Don't forget Duran beat highly regarded Juan Carlos Giminez of Paraguay a few months ago in Miami," the manager advised. "Duran got off the floor in the first round and nearly pitched a shutout."

Bob Lee, IBF president on the scene from New Jersey, said he had "no quarrel accepting Duran as a challenger since our October ratings carry Roberto as the No. 11 challenger. The win over Giminez makes him eligible for a title shot."

Tate acknowledged, "I would like to fight Duran, and someday Thomas Hearns, too. When I sparred with him back in Detroit, he was getting me ready for the pros. But all those decisions are made by my management . . . whatever they do is okay by me."

The U.S. Olympic Committee and former coach Pat Nappi had a right to celebrate too, considering Tate becomes the fourth '84 alumini to win a professional world boxing title.

In the final countdown, Tate promised he'd never give the elusive, fleet Olajide "any punching room by putting my head in his chest and staying there."

There were times when Tate was vicious inside, a pitfall the six-foot Olajide likes to avoid, but the payoff bombs—head-snapping right hands—were launched from outside terrain.

That Olajide's unbeaten skein would be a memory long before sundown first came to the fore in the fifth round when Tate scored with two chopping rights.

The IBF's No. 1 contender found his spindle legs doing a new version of the twist. Olajide literally put a hammerlock on Tate's head to remain upright. Frank followed with a five-punch salvo. Michael tried to counter with a left hook, but his tormentor was back with stinging combinations and a right hand that turned Olajide sideways at the bell.

Tate's handiwork prompted two judges to give him a 10-8 vote without a knockdown. Surprisingly, what had appeared on paper as a close bout to analyze was virtually a rout. Judge Bill Graham's tab was 148-134 (12-2-1 in rounds), while Jerry Roth saw it 147-136 (12-3) and Chuck Giampa recorded 146-135 (11-4), all Las Vegas officials voting for Tate. *The Ring* also logged it for Tate, 147-136 (12-3).

"Olajide came to fight, but I had the mental strength to make him fight my fight," Tate later declared. "We wanted to confuse him by applying pressure from the outside. I had to set the pace because I had to get his pulse rate high. I wanted to lay down a little and then make him throw a stiff jab before coming over with a right."

Olajide, 157½, simply couldn't solve the mystery of Tate, 160, with a jab that was often short and a right that rarely landed when he threw it in combinations.

"Of course, I'm very disappointed, but Frank Tate fought a beautiful fight. I can't take anything away from him," said a visibly dejected Olajide. "I sleepwalked in the late rounds. Yes, he caught me with a good right over a left. What I was trying to do was slow him down with the jab. I figured in the sixth or seventh rounds, I'd catch him late, but he fought a helluva fight."

Much of the action was defensive, with Tate emerging as a master of confusion for Olajide in the manner he applied head and shoulder feints. Frank also scored with hooks and uppercuts when darting or turning away from his rival.

Tate shook Olajide in the ninth round with a left which sent Michael back on his heels, requiring a little half-step to regain his balance.

To his credit, Olajide put to rest any notion that he was all glamour and short on substance as he repeatedly withstood Tate's cannonading. Michael's heart never ticked stronger than in the 11th and 12th rounds.

Early in the 11th, Olajide caught Tate with a picture-perfect right to the jaw. It appeared to have little effect and the adopted Texan proved it with 59 seconds left. Firing a right from the hip, Tate caught Olajide flush on the chin. Michael pitched to his right face down. In obvious frustration, he pounded his right glove into the canvas. It was Olajide's first time down as a pro.

Olajide took referee Richard Steele's count to "eight" upright. The erstwhile British Columbia product then slipped back against the ropes near his own corner.

Tate was on him, unleashing every punch in his arsenal while raking Olajide with hooks and uppercuts. "The Silk" was now like a dervish as he lolled on the ropes. In that final minute, Tate fired approximately 59 punches, but less than half found a target.

Though Olajide could rarely counter, he kept his gloves high enough to keep the *coup de grace* at bay. Still, Tate caught him with another right just before the bell and Olajide skidded along the ropes to stay upright.

"I really wanted to finish him off because nobody wants to go 15 rounds if he can help it. But I didn't want to get careless. I lost my poise, but that comes from being young and anxious," the new champion said. "As hard as I trained for this fight . . . yes, it was easy. I knew when I left Houston for Vegas, Olajide didn't have the strength to beat me.

"Olajide hit me with jabs, but no rights and hooks. Once I took the jab away, there was no Michael Olajide. When I had him on the ropes in the 11th, I stayed in close because I didn't want him to get anything going."

Tate brought 2,460 spectators to the edge of their seats in the 12th round when he dropped Olajide again with a right to the head. Putting his gloves to his face, Michael was like a Muslim praying to mecca, resting on his knees and facing his corner as the referee counted.

Tate was on another planet in a neutral corner as he leaned far back over the top rope strand, later explaining the premature celebration was triggered "because I thought I heard the referee count 10."

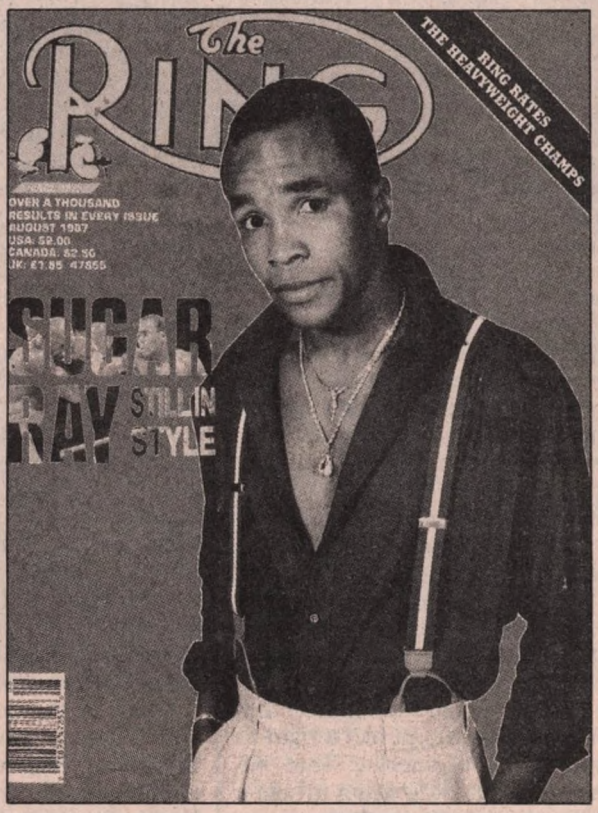
Olajide was now clutching frantically to survive the round and he made it despite Tate snapping off seven unanswered punches.

Reid's instructions to Tate during the final nine minutes were "to punch, move, punch and stay off the ropes." Tate remembered, "Once my leg touched the ropes, I moved out. I knew Olajide would be trying to nail me in the last two rounds, but I kept turning and spinning, punching on the move."

Caesars Palace and a national TV crowd got a whale of a fight for minimum cash. The fighters took their opportunity for $150,000 each. It's going to be a long while before Frank Tate works that cheaply again! □

The RING SINCE 1922

"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"



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New Faces

VAUGHN HOOKS

ACCORDING TO PEOPLE WHO SHOULD know, undefeated light heavyweight Vaughn "Turtle" Hooks is his own worst critic.

"Hooks is probably a much better fighter than he thinks he is," said Russell Peltz, the Philadelphia promoter who has staged most of Hooks' pro bouts.

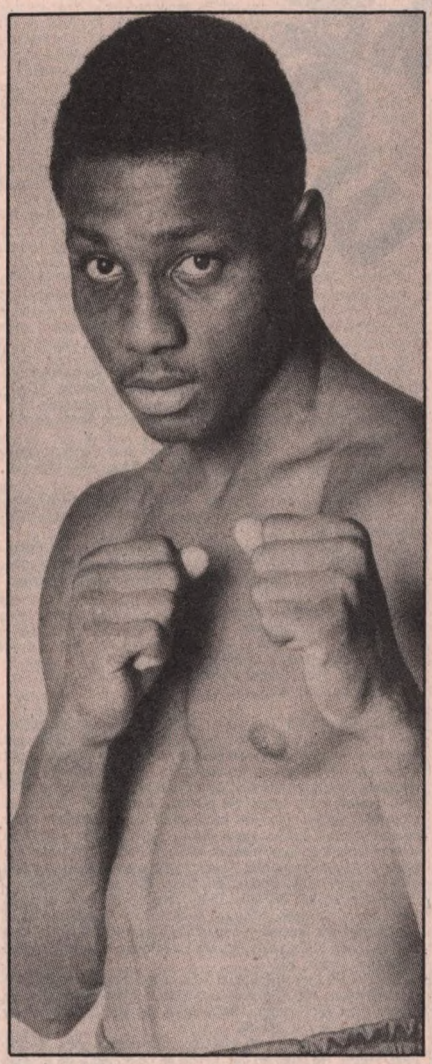
"At one time, I think Vaughn had second thoughts about being a fighter," said Danny Partenope, Hooks' manager. "He's very aware if he makes a bad showing. Even if his opponent hits him just once, he's embarrassed."

However, Hooks' most recent outing (a six-round kayo over Kelvin Kelly for the Pennsylvania 175-pound title televised nationally over the USA cable network) just might be the tonic he needs to boost his confidence.

Kelly, a fellow Philadelphian and former ESPN champ, has mixed with better company than Hooks and was by far Vaughn's toughest assignment to date. Hooks started slowly, but when he finally opened up in the sixth, Kelly was quickly on his way to the shower, leaving Hooks holding the Pennsylvania championship belt.

Hooks caught the boxing bug as a kid when he saw boxers coming out of the dressing room, wearing their robes, on the way to the ring. As youngsters will, he imagined himself doing the same thing. By the time he was 16, the fantasy had become reality and Hooks was boxing as an amateur. From 1977 to 1980 he won four Pennsylvania AAU Golden Gloves titles, losing to Tony Ayala in the semifinals of the 1979 National Golden Gloves in Indianapolis.

Hooks turned pro in April of '83 with a second-round kayo over Ronald Palmer in Atlantic City. But although he's never lost a pro fight, his career has frequently stalled due to lengthy layoffs. There have been the usual canceled fights which plague all fighters, but problems outside the ring have also held him back. The untimely deaths of both his trainer, Quenzell McCall, and his younger brother also slowed Hooks' progress.



A well-schooled boxer/puncher, Hooks had been known to run low on gas in the past. It's a factor Peltz thinks might still be preventing him from going all-out in the ring.

"He seems to be too concerned about his stamina," said Peltz. "In some of his early fights he used to fag out after six rounds."

For the Kelly match, trainer Charlie Spicer had Hooks boxing 12 rounds in the gym, six with light heavyweight contender "Prince" Charles Williams and six with undefeated Nate Miller. The rugged work not only had Hooks in the best condition of his career, it did wonders for his confidence.

"Vaughn has a good frame of mind now," claimed Partenope. "Everyone has always told him how good he is. Now, he's starting to realize it himself."

At age 28, Hooks doesn't have much time to mess around. He's at the point where he's either got to move up to contender status or think about another line of work. A multi-talented individual, Hooks also toils as a disc jockey at the Cheta Club in West Philly and delivers beer for Partenope's Ocean Beverage store.

Despite a tight defense, Hooks did not earn his nickname because he spends a lot of ring time in a shell. One of Vaughn's early influences was an uncle nicknamed "Turtle." Folks began calling Hooks "Little Turtle," which was eventually shortened to "Turtle" as he grew into 175 pounds of finely tuned muscle.

"I always knew I had a lot of potential, but I had some doubts," Hooks told *The Ring*. "I was always in good physical shape, but mentally I wasn't ready. Now, all my questions have been answered."

"I'm not afraid to match Hooks with anyone," said Peltz.

"That's right," agreed Hooks with new-found assurance. "Line 'em up and I'll knock 'em off."

Sounds like Hooks' confidence crisis is history. □

THE PROFESSIONAL RING RECORD OF VAUGHN HOOKS

Philadelphia, Pa. light heavyweight
Born: July 8, 1959
Manager: Danny Partenope
Trainer: Charlie Spicer

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
	1983		
Apr. 13	Ronald Palmer	Atlantic City	KO2
Aug. 31	Arthur Hall	Atlantic City	W6
	1984		
Jan. 15	Jimmy Allen	Atlantic City	W6
Feb. 27	Jeron Hayes	Atlantic City	W6
June 14	Demetrius Edwards	Atlantic City	W6
July 18	Billy Freeman	Philadelphia	KO2
Sept. 6	Jack Johnson	Baltimore	KO7
	1985		
Jan. 22	James Stills	Philadelphia	WDQ4
May 14	Arthur Wright	Philadelphia	KO1
	1986		
Jan. 11	Marcus Jackson	Atlantic City	KO3
Feb. 18	Hector Rosario	Philadelphia	KO2
Apr. 18	Mike Fisher	Atlantic City	W8
	1987		
Feb.	Dawud Shaw	Philadelphia	W8
Aug. 18	Tony Golden	Philadelphia	W8
Oct. 1	Kelvin Kelly	Philadelphia	KO6

SUMMARY

BOUTS	WINS	LOSSES	DRAWS	KOs
15	15	0	0	7

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

▶**PHOENIX—Studio West**—"Tonga Terror" Tony Fulilangi, 196, now listed at 45-1-2, returned to the Phoenix fistic scene with an impressive taming of Terrence "Top Cat" Walker, Las Vegas. Both fighters were in well-muscled condition, with Walker making a duel of it for as long as it lasted. Though "Top Cat", at 184½, was outgunned as well as outweighed, he showed respectable claws in the first frame. Walker kept his off-balance paws in pursuing Fulilangi's blinking face, scratching out effective counter combos. But the difference in their sizes was apparent as Fulilangi increased his pressure in the second, landing a right to the ear that pitched Walker to the mat in a daze. He was up by nine to the crowd's surprise, hanging on behind a feeble counterattack of jabs that scored on a somewhat confused Fulilangi.

The third was a telling round, Fulilangi showing his power in wild pursuit, with his right leg dragging a step off the pace. Walker landed counter shots as he was chased all around, but Fulilangi found the range more and more. At the bell Walker scored with a solid right, but Fulilangi barely noticed. It was a good indication of how things stood.

Fulilangi lost some steam, coming out for the fourth visibly winded, but he was also happy and aggressive while Walker became more desperate in defense. It was now a matter of time, and not much of it. Fulilangi teed off again and again, putting Walker down first with a left, then about 20 seconds later with a chopping right. "Top Cat" performed with animal honor as he wobbled up both times, still game and throwing. But it was like a guy with one chip left at the Vegas tables, not a smart money bet. Walker's last gasp was managing only to smother Fulilangi octopus-like until both wrestled to the deck. The unorthodox reprieve was brief. Fulilangi surfaced swimming with bricks, one a leftside uppercut that dumped Walker again, cancelling further bravery through the three-knockdown rule at 2:59 of the fourth, set for 10.

The winner was in full Tonga regalia of native dress and beads as he spoke to an enthusiastic crowd. He looked more fit than when he left in November, 1985, after a disappointing draw with respectable, but faded Jimmy Young. The Tonaman had then headed back to the island and is said to have racked up something like 10 South Pacific victories. Tonight he showed he is still a crowd pleaser. "My style is to fight. You need a two by four to stop me," he concluded. When Walker's weight was noted, Fulilangi summed it up. "I fought guys 60 pounds over me. Fighting is a killing game. You go down, you don't know if you'll get up again."

Mario Lopez, 142½, Phoenix, became 3-1-1 behind a walloping right hand that finished his business with Gabriel Guzman, 140, Tucson, now 1-3-1. The first round was even as Lopez went with a body attack against Guzman, who used a countering peekaboo style. As the second progressed Lopez started connecting with numerous rights in prelude to the one that settled matters at 1:01 in the third of a set four.

Tim Davis, 173, made an impressive debut as he took a four-round unanimous decision over tough Steve Damon, 177½, Scotsdale, previously undefeated but now 3-1-1. Davis hails from Las Vegas. Scoring: Dr. Michael Munoz and Buzz Alston, 39-37. Bob Cox, 39-38.

Art Blackmore, 132, Scotsdale, climbed to 8-1 with a sharp KO against Jose "Kid" Williams, 130, El Paso, now listed at 25-3-3. It ended at 2:04 in the third of a set six.

Pete Anzaldua, 128½, Phoenix, rose to 15-3 with a TKO over Joe Phillips, 130, Las Vegas. Stoppage came at 2:14 in the third of scheduled six.

Postfight talk with ringsiders, including special guest Eddie Futch, indicated Blackmore was the undercard star and that once again Steve Eisner had put together a popular night of boxing.

Referees: Al Munoz & Al Yanez.
Physician: Charles Howard.
Timekeeper: John Newel.
Announcer: Jack Budd.
Director of Boxing: John Montano.
Promotion: Steve Eisner's Miller Lite Series.
Attendance: 500 (est.).
(8-17-87)

▶**PHOENIX**—Rollin "The Chiller" Williams stared at the hometown arena faces with something to prove while his USBA and ESPN welterweight belts were paraded around the ring to prefight disco fare. Not long ago (in late June), he had left town unheralded. By way of Atlantic City and touted Tommy Ayers, Williams scored a big upset. He returned home with nationwide recognition and a big USBA buckle for his belt collection. Now he was before a curious crowd, many who had seen him before without fanfare or much interest. Williams had a right to feel the pressure of proving himself. To add to the scene, he was fighting an opponent who had stopped Williams in their previous meeting.

Whatever he felt, Williams, 150¾, showed he means and can take care of business. Although he didn't get the opportunity to demonstrate his arsenal or bag of tricks, he reversed a KO loss in San Diego three years ago with a forceful stoppage of that city's Rigo Lopez, 152.

Victory came for Williams at 1:54 of the third round through disqualification. As usual with such a result, there were righteous growls from each camp. The facts of the fight, confirmed by video replay, are as follows.

Round One began with Williams immediately going for the deep freeze. He charged out huffing as he hurled wide missles from knee level. Lopez was lukewarm to the idea of an early evening and responded with short inside counters. It became cold war as both fighters threw a variety of hard shots, but neither had really found the range after two. Williams was ahead at that point, having landed harder and more frequent blows.

The first half of the fateful third proceeded as the other rounds had. After landing brief parts of a combination, Williams connected with a straight left that seemed to have Lopez backing up for the first time in the fight. Suddenly, Lopez flopped floorward, twisting in pain as he grabbed at his right eye. As the count progressed, Lopez rose, stumbling blindly. A white cotton flag sailed into the ring, followed by one of Lopez's protesting cornermen, causing ref Ron Meyers to call the disqualification.

Postfight film scrutiny failed to reveal exactly what angle William's glove and Lopez's face met, but it was a legally thrown blow. Williams offered a rubber match any time since Lopez didn't see himself outgunned, saying, "He poked me in the eye man, I felt that thumb back in my brain."

Williams is noticed in many rankings these days, and tonight's ending did nothing to tarnish his reputation as a solid all-around boxer. He landed good smacks before ever hitting stride, and his closely crew-cut head was seldom touched. His record is now 18-4-1, with some records indicating a possible fifth loss.

"The crowd probably wasn't satisfied, but I was," "Chiller" concluded. To the contrary, he was cheered, and most viewers agreed with his assessment of the skirmish. "I see it as a knockout. I was just getting ready to take over . . . just gettin' the ice!"

Cool.

Former WBA bantamweight champ Gaby Canizales prepared for a November USBA title challenge with a simple and quick workout, stopping Alejandro Valenzuela, 118, Los Angeles, now 20-3, at 2:29 of the third round, set for 10.

Canizales had an easy time in his half of the twin main event. Valenzuela entered the square with a bruised right eye and had more bad luck before Canizales got near him. Poor cornerwork in previous bouts had soaked much of the canvas with water, and as Valenzuela came out for Round One, he slipped and fell flat. Maybe he shouldn't have gotten up. Every punch Canizales threw seemed to bother Valenzuela whether they landed or not. The fighters recreated the old desert scene of roadrunner and snake as Valenzuela bobbed rapidly around while Canizales poised in dangerous wait.

Valenzuela became more aggressive and was trading with Canizales for most of the next two rounds until the brutally quick ending emerged. Canizales was still calm as he landed the conclusive concussioner, a right that caught Valenzuela behind the ear. In delay action, Valenzuela dropped flat on his back, senseless. He tried one-third of a sit-up, eyes spinning. It was obvious by the blank tilt of his head he was not getting up. Ringside doctor Marcus Ingleman was commendably through the satin strands before Valenzuela slumped back down.

Canizales, 119, returned to Texas with the 28th knockout on his 37-4-1 record. "I didn't get much time to train," said Gaby later. He still looked pretty tough.

The scrap of the card was a brutal but glorious conflict between John Sale, now 11-0, and Francisco Diaz, now a deceiving 5-4-2. Each battered the other from opening to-closing bell in a strong nomination for clubfight of the year. Piston-punching Diaz, 154 from LA, never took a backward step although Sale, 152½, Phoenix, landed some amazing, come from behind blasts. Sale's right eye was swollen shut from the first round, and he ended with bloody nose and lips. Diaz was just as hurt, walloped down in the first and second. Sale went down in the third from a shovepunch. A classic six-rounder.

The unanimous decision went to Sale, but the crowd screamed in homage to both men's courageous display. It was the first time this writer saw money thrown into an Arizona ring this year. If it was thrown as much as the punches had been, both fighters would be deservedly much richer. Scoring: Dr. Michael Munoz, 57-55, Ron Meyers, 57-54, Bob Cox, 59-54.

The rest of the undercard was also fine. Steve "Broken Feather" Damon, 174, Scotsdale, now 4-1-1, took a six-round unanimous call from Tommy Covington, 175, Phoenix, now 6-9-1. Native American Damon was embarrassed by a large fluorescent orange headdress promoters put on him which inspired many "whoowhoowhoo" warcalls, but he responded with constant hard leads from both sides. Covington looked almost exactly like Sugar Ray Leonard in face and body and did not disgrace the image as he danced and feinted well. Damon just looked like a brave young fighter, always keeping the pressure on. Scoring: Cox, 59-57, Munoz, 59-56, Bob Ferrerra, 59-55.

Raul Marquez, 154, Tucson, now 1-0-1, took a majority four-round verdict from Todd Mallard, also 154 from Tucson, now 0-2, in a middleweight duke. Again formalities were dispensed with early as both slugged away from the start. The difference might have come in the last frame when Mallard was dropped. He was up before the count started, leaning against the middle rope as if waiting for a bus.

Tommy Taylor, now 6-1, Phoenix, 194, gained a unanimous decision from stylish Dino Homsey, now 1-2, Phoenix, 195¼. Homsey's brightest moment came as he entered in his tuxedo. Taylor lost the fashion contest and got cut deep over the right eye, but earned the nod over four through more activity. Taylor got a bath between every round, then when he got punched, three rows of fans got a shower.

The only disappointment on the card came with the appetizer. Romney Gary, 117, Phoenix, added his eighth knockout to a perfect 10-fight log with a creaming of Armando "El Diablo" Ramirez, 118, Tucson. Any thoughts of victory Diablo might have had were quickly shot to hell as Gary easily measured, then pummeled Ramirez with an immediate bouquet of longarmed rights. Ron Meyers was quite correct in stopping the farce at 58 seconds of the first. Afterwards, the Arizona Commission had some serious questions about Ramirez's stats.

Judges: Bob Cox, Bobby Fererra, Dr. Michael Muñoz & Ron Meyer.
Commission Director of Boxing: John Montano.
Timekeeper: Sam Munoz.
Announcer: Gordon Wood.
Promoter: Tucson Boxing Association.
Attendance: 1,350 (est.).
(9-18-87)

▶**TUCSON—Holidome**—Joey "The Kid" Medina, 132, kept local bragging rights with a unanimous decision over out-of-state attacker Harold Romero, 134½. But Romero, from Santa Fe, now listed at 12-9, was also received like a popular native son. Romero has fought around here more than Medina in recent months, and the spoils of the battle were appropriately for the Arizona lightweight championship. Both fighters ended up going at it like the stakes were bigger for 12 solid rounds.

Medina had already taken a decision over 10 last December and Romero was determined to ammend matters. Romero charged from the blue corner in bright blue trunks and shoes behind short ramming jabs and body shots. A quickly black and blue Medina, who had entered the ring to a custom made rap tune, must have felt like singing the blues because although the early exchanges were close, Medina alone showed damage. As they traded body shots in the third, Romero came over the top and walloped Medina to a knee. Medina knelt dazed and got smacked again as ref Ron Meyers yanked Romero off. Medina looked like he was sleepwalking in the ozone, but the bell tolled on Romero's best chance. By the fourth, Medina had evaded danger for good.

Medina, 20, is no kid anymore. It showed as he gazed in painful calm, hanging draped over Romero waiting for the cobwebs to clear. Medina slowly started coming back with laserlike counters, but still gasped in his corner during the middle rounds while Romero smiled in his. But things were about to change as Medina got his second wind and Romero slowed down. Medina got time to pick his shots, and although Romero continued to scored with rapid and fierce gut bombs, Medina was purposely drawing Harold to the strands. Medina swiped most of the points as he exploded counters off the ropes, smearing nostril fire in

red smears across Romero's no longer smiling face. The crowd roared during the home stretch as Romero finished strong, but Medina had piled up too many points. Scoring by Bob Fererra was 115-114, Joe Garcia 114-113, Gerald Maltz 115-113. *The Ring* saw it 116-114 for Medina. Still, Romero has fought dozens of Tucson rounds without a backward step, and many fans gave him the nod. Thanks to Vince Gonzales, he'll get more than that. The promoter promised Romero a copy of the nice belt that had been made up prior to the fight. In keeping the original, Medina rose to 16-14-1 and kept his hopes alive.

"I was glad to hear the word 'still,'" said Medina, acknowledging the close encounter. Afterwards, as during the battle, Medina and Romero were class acts sharing the spotlight.

"Harold and I are buddies," noted Medina as they sat marked but smiling." Even while beating on each other.'" What are friends for?

In what was billed as the "Tucson Triple Hitter," the other featured meetings were adjourned early. NABF title tilts are slated for both victors.

Jesse Benevides, Corpus Christi, 124¾, had a relatively easy workout rising to 19-0. Benevides scored his 16th KO, and there was nothing Hugo Partida, LA, 127, now 22-9, could do about it. Partida did not look in the best of shape, his round form draped in way oversized trunks. The scheduled 10-rounder went for about 11 minutes with Benevides cruising, taking his time but keeping uncomfortable reminders of the situation in Partida's reddening face. In the fourth, Partida assumed the look of a victim as everything started landing. The cumulative effect of Benevides' darts stung the crowd also, and yells for ref intervention started. Suddenly, Hugo delighted the fickle cluster by landing one decent glove and everyone yelled for a brawl. Inspired, Partida snorted blood into the night air and charged. But the account was closed, such glory short-lived as Partida was unable to keep his hands up while Benevides teed off, picador of this bullfight. Shouts for mercy were loud again just before a combination nailed still gutsy Partida to his knee, and the fight was stopped at 2:03 of the fourth.

Mexican transplant Julio Cordona introduced himself well. Cardona, 109½, is now listed at 41-5, with every win by knockout. He wore black gloves and it was soon lights out for Jesus "El Gato" Padilla Avila, 111, now 26-3 from Guadalajara. That town is known as the city of roses but tonight it was all thorns for "El Gato" as Cardona dished out the hurt early and wide. Cardona opened his repertoire with a battering right and soon another main event fighter went to a knee. Avila was up in a flash, but all he got for the effort was wobbled into a corner where Cardona whipped up a series of raining rights until the bell. The storm got worse for Avila in the second when he was sat on the ropes and thumped. Cardona then duked Avila around the ring a bit before forcing him down. Avila was ready for more when Bobby Fererra concluded the uneven match at 2:06 in the second set of 10. Some hooting followed, but without just basis. It was just a case of a stranger living up to his stats, and in the end cheers of welcome abounded. Negotiations are set for an NABF flyweight championship here before Cardona's already home-town crowd since he joined the Tucson Boxing Association team.

There were less undercard gos than main events, but the supporting cast did well for its part of the show as Leroy "Stinging Lee" Rivera, 157, Tucson, now 4-6-1, proved his 'point' stopping Jim Kinkade, 157, Flagstaff, 3-5-2, at 2:50 in the opener of four. Rivera effectively worked up and down with a varied display. It was mainly down for Kinkade, who was hurt by a short left to the body, then clipped with a right hook. His limp glove was the only thing not flat on the beersign as he hitchhiked to coherency. Kinkade gutted it out at seven, but Rivera landed one shot there and one to the noggin and ref Ron Meyers had correctly seen enough.

One seemingly bad call detracted from an otherwise excellent boxing card as George Corral, Tucson, 140, 1-1, and Robert Smith, San Diego, 139, 0-1, added another column to their records with a questionable majority draw. Gerald Maltz was accurate tabbing the four-rounder 39-37 for Smith. Everyone *The Ring* polled agreed except judges Ron Meyers and Joe Garcia, who had it 38-up. Not to take anything away from Corral, but Smith seemed at least a couple punches ahead most rounds. *The Ring* had Smith ahead 40-37. The crowd saw it clearest, cheering the contestants but razzing the decision.

Promoter: Tucson Boxing Association.
Judges: Gerald Maltz, Joe Garcia, Bob Ferrera & Ron Meyers.
Announcer: Gordon Wood.
Physicians: John Bail & Frank Gomez.
Timekeeper: Gus Luna.
Attendance: 2,155 (est.).
(9-25-87)

PHIL WOOLEVER

INDIANA

▶**LOWELL**—NABF super lightweight champion Harold Brazier, 142, South Bend, wore down Jorge Acosta, Mexico via Denver, 138, to score the 50th victory in his busy career.

Referee Al Pressinger stopped the bout in the fifth after Acosta had been down four times.

Acosta used good hand and foot speed to take the first two rounds, but Round Three saw Brazier starting to plow through Acosta's punches to land good body shots of his own. Brazier did enough damage to drop Acosta twice in the fourth round. The visitor got up and fought back hard, but was dropped twice more in the next frame.

The bouts took place in an old barn where promoters had chased out the horses just hours before the fights began.

"This was the greatest!" said Brazier, who notched the 35th KO in his 50-7-1 record. "I had to wipe the horse dung off my boxing shoes when I got into the ring.

"I'm staying busy, and I'm ready," Brazier added. "If they need a sub for any of the three titles because a challenger falls out, all they gotta' do is call."
(9-26-87)

KENTUCKY

▶**LEXINGTON—Continental Inn**—It was a "Brown" night as the Brown boys—all related—fought in four of the five bouts presented by promoter G.L. Van Horn in a well-received card.

The eight-round main event featured promising lightweight Bryan "Choirboy" Brown, 132, Lexington, versus Chicago's Joe Kirkland, also 132.

It was hard going for 5-1-1 Brown throughout the first three stanzas as Kirkland provided all the opposition Brown wanted. But in the fourth "Choirboy," whose rugged style belies his appearance, began to take charge and by the sixth Bryan's hard combinations to the head and body had taken their toll.

It seemed Kirkland would not survive the fifth, but with nothing left he courageously refused to call it quits. But there was no salvation in the sixth as Brown continued his relentless attack. An unanswered seven-punch barrage finished off the Chicago fighter at 0:42 of the sixth. Sam Floyd refereed.

The evening's first contest was a scheduled six-round light heavyweight bout between Shawn Evans, 175, Lexington, and Burnell Selders, 175, Chicago.

The popular Evans, a senior at nearby Eastern Kentucky University and a TKE fraternity member, has changed management and now fights for G.L. Van Horn. Evans has also dropped 20 pounds and appears to e a very fit light heavyweight.

Despite his 7-0 record, all via the KO route, Evans was given a boxing lesson for the first 90 seconds of the contest. Thereafter, powerpunching Evans took charge, forcing his man on the defensive and then knocking Selders through the ropes with a terrific right. It appeared Selders, 3-1, might not make it back in. He did, though, and was saved by the bell. But he was a beaten fighter and Evans was not to be denied in the next canto. His right flashed once again and referee Terry O'Brien counted Selders out at 1:09 of the second.

In other action, junior middleweight Jerry Brown, 151, Lexington, upped his record to 5-1 by TKO'ing Chicago's J. Demetrie, 150, at 2:56 of the second in a scheduled six-rounder. Floyd refereed.

Yet another Brown from Van Horn's stable, welterweight Billy Brown, 147, Lexington, defeated Detroit's Walter Cowan, 146, in a hard-fought six-round matchup. Brown's record rose to 7-0-1 and Cowan's fell to 13-7. O'Brien refereed.

The only disappointing fight of the evening occurred when middleweight Dean Meadows, 163, Lexington, took on Detroit's reluctant Charles O'Neal, 155, in a bout scheduled for six.

O'Neal's heart was never in the fight and he spent most of his time holding the aggressive Meadows, so much that Floyd took a point away from him in the second. He needn't have. O'Neal refused to come out for the third. TKO for Meadows who improved his record to 4-0, while O'Neal's fell to 1-3.

Judges: Larry Mullins, Ray Kempf & Mike Childers.
Physicians: Dr. James Ross.
Referees: Terry O'Brien & Sam Floyd.
Timekeeper: Chuck Sayers.
Matchmaker: G.L. Van Horn.
Promoter: Bluegrass Pro Boxing.
Attendance; 700 (est.).
(9-29-87)

JOEL ROITMAN

MARYLAND

▶**GLEN BURNIE—La Fontaine Bleu**—This eminently successful promotion returned with its second sold-out dinner/boxing show. In a rematch of an incredible war, D.J. Turner, 145, Baltimore, reversed a hairline loss to inactive Thomas Baker, 140, Wash., DC, with a unanimous win, 10. This one didn't match the fury of their first battle, but went through periods of luster and lull. Baker jived away the early rounds, then settled down to trading, only to get decked by a left hook-right cross in the fourth. After a few defensive rounds, Thomas began to reach a wearying Turner in punishing infighting. But D.J. revived in a hectic final session to win by scores of 98-94 from Harry Cecchini, 97-93 from Ray Klingmeyer and 100-90 from Tom Kelly. The winner lifted his record to 15-6. Milton Greene refereed.

Popular Chuck Sturm, 135½, Glen Burnie, took everything Henry Hawkins, 138½, Landover, could muster and came back with more to win a unanimous decision in a heated brawl, six. Sturm became 9-2, while Hawkins went to 2-2-1. Ref, Larry Barrett.

Antonio DeBarros, 136, Cape Verde Is., via District Hgts., MD, TKO'd lefty Tim Johnson, 139, DC, who was down in the second and quit after two of an awkward, scrambling six. DeBarros won his 10th straight, while Johnson suffered his first loss after two wins. Ref, Barrett.

Lefty George Pindell, 135, Annapolis, went to 2-1 with a unanimous win over debuting Stephan Stallings, 135½, DC, in a good four. Stallings took a quick lead until dropped by a right hook counter in the second. Ref, Greene.

Dave Palaganos, 123½, Randallstown, MD, won his debut with a deserved, but hairline split verdict over Billy Barnes, 124¾, DC, in a bitterly fought four. Dave was stronger and wouldn't stop throwing against the better-boxing Barnes. Ref, Barrett.

Promoters: Max Kisner & Victoria Savaleski (Maryland Showcase).
Matchmaker: Max Kisner.
Attendance: 936, $17,000 (est.).
Timekeepers: Izzy Bach & Earl Clemons.
Announcer: Tony Baldoni.
(9-30-87)

J.R. JOWETT

MASSACHUSETTS

▶**ATTLEBORO—Attleboro High School**—Dave Rivello wanted his homecoming to be impressive, but he didn't plan on fighting one-handed. Before Broadway shows, the traditional sendoff is "Break a leg," but Rivello probably won't see the humor in that anymore. On the night he returned to his alma mater for a 10-round main event, he broke his right forearm in Round One.

Rivello, up to 135 for the first time in his career, was also boxing his first bout under the tutelage of the Petronelli brothers, having left Angelo Dundee's stable after 11 straight wins. His opponent, Sammy Lee Young, 137, Troy, N.Y., was a cagy pro intended as a test, but a safe test. Young came with a billed record of 25-10, though it is probably closer to .500.

The first round was hectic, with Rivello dancing around his foe behind a rapier left jab as Young threw deliberate counters. There were a few intense flurrries and in one of them Rivello's forearm smashed against Young's.

"I felt something jab in there," he said later. "Not a snap, but more like my wrist pulling."

Postfight X-rays would reveal a broken bone, but after a cursory exam by his corner and a ringside physician, Rivello had nine more rounds to endure with a packed house of hometown fans looking on.

Rivello tried to throw a few combinations in the second round, but soon abandoned all attempts to fire serious right hands. Left jabs and left hooks were his entire arsenal, with the right used only to feint or push. Rivello's footwork was superb throughout and Young was never able to find him long enough to do much damage. In several instances, Rivello's one-armed barrage would back up the older fighter and seem to have him in trouble, but the lefts could not finish him off. In the final round, Rivello stayed on his bicycle, confident of his large poitns margin. This would be the only round Young may have won, though he was too weary to accomplish much.

Judge Joe Rindone scored it 100-92 Rivello, while ref Ed Fitzgerald called it 100-91 and judge Robert McCoy 97-93. We saw it 99-92.

"I'll never forget this night," Rivello said, understandably enough. "I was under the gun with my hometown crowd here, but I felt I handled the pressure well. I think I also answered any questions people had that I am a full-fledged lightweight. Aside from the injury, I never felt I performed as well as I did tonight—the chemistry is really there with Goody Petronelli."

The pride of Attleboro, a town situated on the Rhode Island border, did not notice Angelo Pazienza seatéd in the first row, but he expressed a long-range desire to aim for son Vinny's lightweight title.

Five four-rounders opened the card. Kevin Pompey, 146, Troy, N.Y., used body blows to TKO Tony Rorie, 140, Trumbull, Ct., at 2:00 of Round Four.

Debuting Pamezan Iffel, 178, Barbados outboxed Andy Gordon, 182, Waterbury, Ct., to win by split decision in a battle of wild swingers.

Steve Collins, 162, Brockton, made a successful drop down to the middleweight class, flooring New York City's Jimmy Holmes, 154, twice in the first round before the bout was halted.

Light heavyweight Greg Townes of nearby Pawtucket, R.I. won by unanimous decision over Dionisto Del Valla of New York City.

The most entertaining prelim saw Mike Cappiello, 130, West Bridgewater, survive a nasty third-round cut from a butt to defeat Alberto Alecea, 134, Troy, N.Y., by a unanimous verdict. Cappiello, who sports shorts emblazoned "Little Rock," is a second cousin of Rocky Marciano and fought much the same, attacking furiously from bell to bell. He is 2-0 as a pro.

Referees: Ed Fitzgerald & Bill Connelly.
Judges: Joe Rindone & Robert McCoy.
Physician: Dr. Rene Barrette.
Promoter: Paul Morrisette.
Attendance: 623.
Timer: James Froio.
Gross: $6,800 (est.).
(10-10-87)

JAY N. MILLER

MICHIGAN

▶**STERLING HEIGHTS—Premier Center**—The main event presented a challenging matchup between Michigan cruiserweight champion Spencer "The Warrior" Chavis against veteran Young Joe Louis, the entertaining slugfest coming to a halt after the fifth due to a broken jaw suffered by Louis.

Referee Sam Williams made it official as Louis was unable to answer the bell for the sixth. Louis requested a rematch and the Chavis camp and matchmaker Duke Durden agreed Louis deserved a replay, which would get no argument from ringsiders or fans.

When they traded it was obvious Chavis was susceptible to Louis' quick left hooks, so Chavis wisely adopted a hit-and-run tactic that enabled him to gain control with effective counterpunching and lateral movement.

Ironman veteran Woody Clark (11-8-3), Fayetteville, North Carolina, brought it to local heavyweight Eric "The Whip" Curry (17-2) in their 10-rounder, though Curry won the unanimous decision. There was no doubt Curry could handle the straight-ahead style of Clark, but Clark's power and ring generalship never let Curry coast. Curry used his speed and counterpunching to dictate and found time to open two small cuts on Clark's right eye, providing ample justification for the 99-91 (twice) and 98-92 scored turned in by the judges.

Bantamweight's Renaldo "Little Red" Carter and Randy Garlindo were scheduled for six, but Carter, an unbeaten from Detroit, showed the game Garlindo (4-2) what being a bantamweight buzzsaw is all about. "Little Red" knocked down Garlindo three times in 2:47 for a KO victory that was decisive in every respect and positioned Carter for bigger and better things.

Detroit welterweight Courtney Hooper (18-1) scored a unanimous eight-round decision over Dwayne Primm of Dallas. Hooper ran into left-right combinations that saw him switch to a southpaw stance after being cut over the left eye in the second. By the fifth it had become a bloodbath with referee Marv McDonald wisely seeking the advice of ringside physician Michael Sherbin,

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who said the crescent-shaped laceration was bloody, but not dangerous. Hooper switched back to orthodox and counter-punched his way to the finish, earning scores of 78-74 (twice) and 79-73.

A determined Fred "The Tank" Adams took out Gilbert Garza in three. It appeared as if Adams might be in for another perplexing matchup as Garza seemed to tower over the compact "Tank." From the start, the featherweight went at it like dueling chainsaws, Adams' small stature working to his advantage as he presented very little target to Garza, who was kept busy defending himself against the body attack and chopping rights to the head by Adams. The end came at 1:25, leaving Adams 10-1-1 while Garza took a 3-3 record back to San Antonio.

Undefeated local favorite Tom Johnson (7-0) met a determined and competent Troy Dorsey (5-2) of Dallas, Johnson coming away with an eight-round split decision win. The featherweights provided non-stop action, Johnson countering Dorsey's aggressiveness often enough to swell the visitor's left eye in the seventh. Judge Randy Ericson scored 79-74 Dorsey, but judges Rose Grable and Cynthia Wrobel saw it for Johnson, 79-73 and 77-75, respectively.

The opener saw Detroit junior welterweight Dwayne Peterson (2-0) win a unanimous six-round decision over Dallas' Reggie Robinson (5-7-1). Robinson rocked Peterson in the sixth, but couldn't make up his deficit, losing by scores of 58-56 and 59-55 (twice).

Promoter: Johnny "Ace" Smith.
Matchmaker: Duke Durden.
Referees: Marv McDonald & Sam Williams.
Physicians: Ralph Sachs & Michael Sherbin.
Judges: Rose Grable, Randy Ericson & Cynthia Wrobel.
Announcer: Jim Ingram.
Attendance: 720.
(9-29-87)

▶**NOTES:** There is fierce competition between the Kronk and Ace stables in the Detroit area. Even the gladiators are getting into the act as Hurley Snead defected from the Steward camp to join the Johnny "Ace" Smith group at ABC Promotions . . . The level of professionalism and competency of officials got a boost as the Michigan Association of Professional Boxing Officials hosted a seminar on sports medicine and officiating under the direction of Bobby Watson and Frank Garza and supported by grants from Smith and Dr. Bill Kozerski. The IBF's Dr. Jack Battalia, referee Rudy Battle and Dr. Stuart Kirschenbaum of the Michigan Board of Athletic Control participated. Over 20 Michigan judges, referees, physicians, coaches and members of the media were present for the all-day seminars and case studies.

TOM PARUSZKIEWICZ

MINNESOTA

▶**MOUNDS VIEW—Bel-Rae Ballroom**—Coon Rapids middleweight Dan Schommer met his first "bona fide" main eventer in the person of Knox Brown of Memphis, and at the end of 10 tough rounds, Schommer was victorious and still undefeated. Schommer showed in the first round that he meant business as he got Brown in the corner and put him down for a mandatory eight count from a flurry of punches. The movement of Schommer, his jab and southpaw stance kept Brown off balance and earned his respect. Thoughtout the rest of the 10 rounds, it was all Schommer as he gave Brown a good pasting, which Brown admitted to after the fight. The win upped Schommer's record to 13-0-0, while Brown slipped to 27-13-1.

In a middleweight encounter, Everett Page of Minneapolis (6-3-0) won a hard-fought six-round decision over Jerry Cody of La Crosse, Wisc. (3-3-0).

Gilbert Mitchell, 31-year-old Minneapolis lightweight (1-0-0), surprised by outpointing Don Kummala of Anoka (3-1-1) over five rounds.

Jay Nelson, Cedar Rapids, Iowa heavyweight (2-0-0), decisioned Willy Mayberry of Duluth (5-9-1) over four rounds.

Attendance: 1,025.
Gate: $11,000.
(9-29-87)

▶**NOTES:** Schommer's victory over Knox Brown sets the stage for a big local match with Richfield's Dan Morgan which should be a sell-out. St. Paul's Brian Brunette says he will come out of retirement to meet the winner of a Schommer-Morgan fight, which would also be a sell-out locally.

GEORGE D. BLAIR

NEVADA

▶**LAS VEGAS—Bally's Hotel/Casino**—If Jeff Franklin and Keith Stevenson were race horses, they'd be a helluva daily double.

At least they would have been on this Top Rank card.

Franklin, 126½, started it all for the locals when he hung in to upset previously undefeated Tracy Harris Patterson, 125, New Paltz, New York, on a 10-round decision.

Stevenson, 129, ended what might have been a photo finish when cuts over the eyes of Alberto Mercado, 127, The Bronx, created a TKO victory in the ninth of a scheduled 10.

Depending on where you were sitting, Franklin's victory may be worthy of dispute since Patterson delivered the heavier bombs. But Franklin delivered more in numbers. There were no knockdowns, but Franklin almost lost his footing in the fourth when Patterson knocked him off balance with a left and right to the head.

Franklin, 25, found a way to lift his record to 17-2-2, seven KOs, when the 23-year-old Patterson blew hot and cold, seemingly relying on an effective overhand right in an effort to score a one-punch knockout. Patterson saw his slate marred for the first time since turning pro in June, 1985, as the adopted son of former two-time world heavyweight champ Floyd Patterrson dipped to 20-1 with 11 KOs.

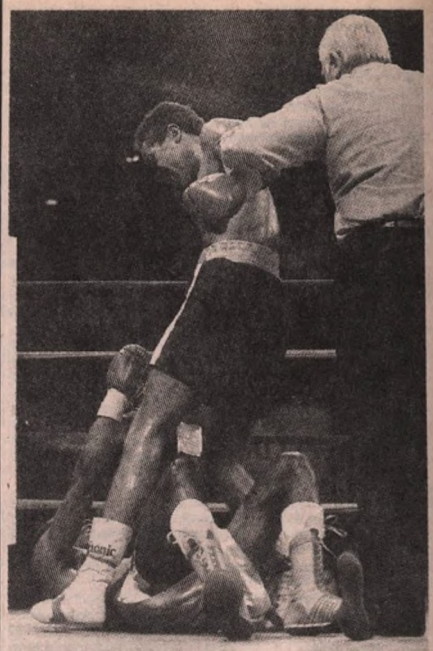


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Referee Joey Curtis tries to untangle Jeff Franklin, who stands over Tracy Harris Patterson after the latter accidentally slipped to the canvas during the fifth round of their recent 10-round junior lightweight bout at Bally's Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas. Franklin upset the previously undefeated Patterson on a 10-round decision.

In the official voting, all for Franklin, Dalby Shirley and Cindi Barton saw it 96-94, while Bill Graham recorded 98-93.

Franklin admitted he felt the power in Patterson's punching, saying, "He did stun me in the late rounds, but never enough that I couldn't come back. I was never really hurt. Patterson is a good boxer and he was hard to hit cleanly because he is so compact. The key to the win in the ninth and 10th rounds was my jab. I knew I had to take the fight to him because Tracy would be coming out with bombs.

"I knew it was a close fight, but I won it on my aggression," added Franklin. "I wanted to look good because I knew Patterson had the name. He was faster with combinations than I expected, so I wanted to get off first."

Patterson, fighting his first 10-rounder, said he "wouldn't second-guess the judges on the scoring, but I would like to come back for a rematch."

Floyd, who adopted his son when Tracy was 14, also refused to make excuses.

"In his first 10-rounder, a fighter is a bit nervous and tends to save something to be able to last the distance. Tracy was aggressive, then he'd let up and lay back. I lost my first fight after 13 wins and came back. Tracy will too!"

Stevenson, 29, a one-time Marine paratrooper, again relied on his patented ever-forward attack against the smooth-boxing Mercado, who was only out of harm's way when sticking and moving.

A transplanted Kentuckian, Stevenson, 129, gained a point in the eighth round when referee Davey Pearl penalized Mercado, 127, for a low blow. It was a factor in leaving the rivals even on contrasting scorecards as Dave Moretti had it 85-85, while Barton saw it 86-84, Stevenson, compared to Shirley's 86-83 ballot for Mercado.

The end came when Dr. Flip Homasky, the Nevada State Athletic Commission physician, refused to let Mercado come out for the final round.

"Mercado had two cuts over the right eye and one on the left side," said Homasky. "I gave his corner plenty of time to close the wounds, but they didn't. Combined, the cuts will require 15 stiches."

An improved Cecil Coffee, 204, Flatwoods, Kentucky, raised his credentials to 18-0-2, 16 KOs, with a TKO over gutty Joey Christjohn, 217, Onedia, Wisconsin. The end of the scheduled eight-rounder came at 2:32 of the fifth. Coffee trapped Christjohn on the ropes in the opening round and hammered him to the canvas with combinations to the head and body. The American Indian was back on the deck from a six-punch volley in the third round, but got a reprieve from the bell. Coffee put Christjohn, 7-4-2, four KOs, back on the floor with seven punches in the fifth, prompting Pearl to halt the bout.

Norway-born Terry Sveen, 172, made his pro debut with an impressive four-round victory over Chris McVicker, 174½, Los Angeles, who had won his first two outings.

Jon Michael Roy, 166, San Bernardino, California, recovered from a rocky first round to TKO Argentina's Rey Vallejos, 163, with a left hook at 1:12 of the second round. Roy is 6-6-1, five KOs, while Vallejos is 13-2.

Jaime Flores Fernandez, 162, Tijuana, Mexico, knocked out

Eddie Duffy, 165¾, Las Vegas, with a right uppercut at 1:08 of the first round. Fernandez is 3-3, two KOs, while Duffy falls to 8-2, all the wins coming by knockout.
(10-9-87)

▶**LAS VEGAS—Caesars Palace**—On the undercard of the Frank Tate/Michael Olajide IBF middleweight title bout, Tunde "The Doctor" Foster, 136, Brooklyn, New York, recorded a unanimous eight-round decision over Sam Ray Taylor, 136½, San Diego, California, extending his record to 14-0 with eight KOs. Taylor falls to 7-3-2 with three KOs.

Warren Williams, 153, Houston, Texas, survived a matchup of unbeatens when he TKO'd Mark "The Hammer" Weinman, 153, Whitestone, New York, at 1:33 of the seventh round of a scheduled eight. Williams' log rose to 7-0-1 with three KOs, while Weinman dropped to 11-1 with eight KOs.

Kevin Watts, 160, Pleasantville, New Jersey, improved his ledger to 17-6 with nine KOs with a unanimous six-round decision over Eddie Hall, 160, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, who fell to 15-3 with six KOs.

Ismael Negron, 159, Newark, New Jersey, knocked out Higinio Soriano, 159, Los Angeles, with a right hook at 23 seconds of the second round in a scheduled six-rounder. Negron moved to 13-3, 10 by KO, while Soriano tripped to 12-4, all the wins by KO.
(10-10-87)

JACK WELSH

▶**STATELINE—High Sierra Resort Hotel**—Two lopsided bouts "highlighted" this card, Reno's Mike Grow and Davey Montana coming away with victories in abbreviated 10-rounders.

Grow, a lightweight, beat on Sergio Duran, Juarez, Mexico, until referee Norm Budden stopped the pounding at 1:37 of the third round.

Montana, a welterweight, didn't have to work as hard, stopping El Paso's Bryan Davenport in just 1:09. Davenport went down from a straight right, got up, but was dropped for good by an overhand right.

A six-round welterweight slugfest saw Pat Brennan, Brooklyn, halt Mario Lopez, Phoenix, at 2:40 of the third. Lopez was willing to stand and slug with Brennan, but it proved a mistake when Brennan dropped him with a right shortly before the end of Round Two. Lopez just beat the count, the bell sounding soon after. Brennan went for the finish in the third and dropped Lopez for good with a right uppercut and left hook to the body.

Jorge Flores, a lightweight from South Lake Tahoe, was unsuccessful in his pro bow, dropping a four-round unanimous decision to Stockton's John Bryan, though Bryan was penalized a point for low blows.

Reno's Darrell Hayes made his mark 2-0, stopping Tucson's Ralph Robin at 2:32 of the second of a scheduled four-round welterweight match. Robin was knocked down by a right hand, beat the count, but was in no condition to continue.

Promoter: Larry Lawson.
Matchmaker: Moe Smith.
(9-26-87)

NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina Hotel & Casino**—Inching his way back from the Howard Davis defeat, Othal "Choo Choo" Dixon, 140½, Houston, scored an impressive KO of former IBF lightweight champion Jimmy Paul, 139¾, Detroit, at 1:02 of the fourth, scheduled 10. A notorious slow starter, Paul found himself in deep doo-doo as "Choo Choo" was all over him like a cheap suit. In fast-paced action, Jimmy boxed and countered well enough, but couldn't generate enough power in full reverse to derail the locomotive. Dixon's rib-crunching body attack proved the deciding factor. A right under the ribs nailed the fleeing Paul followed by a left hook to the chin that crashed him onto the seat of his trunks. Seemingly suffering from post-title shock, Jimmy showed little resolve to regain his feet. It was his second straight loss, falling to 26-4, while Dixon became 20-2. Ref, Joe Cortez.

In the co-feature 10, Carl "The Truth" Williams managed to look good against a spoiler opponent. A once well-regarded prospect who long ago floundered, Mike Gans, 238, San Francisco, showed little more than a strange desire to last another round. Williams, 230, White Plains, found the overweight Gans difficult to hurt, but smartly went to the body to take him down. Mike was dropped twice in the fourth and exhausted by the fifth. Yet he hung on into the sixth, when he folded on purpose and had difficulty rising. Ref Vinnie Rainone refused to call it a knockdown, but took a point for a variety of other infractions. When body shots twice felled Gans a round later, Rainone finally waved it over. The winner rose to 19-2, while Gans became 11-6 with the TKO coming at 0:41 of the seventh.

In a crowd-pleasing battle royal, Owen McGeachy, 134¼, Bklyn., floored Roland Cummings, 133¾, Youngstown, in the third, then staved off fatigue to stop the exhausted and defenseless Roland with a standing eight at 2:23 of the eighth and final round. Owen went to 6-1 and Roland to 9-2. Ref, Rainone.

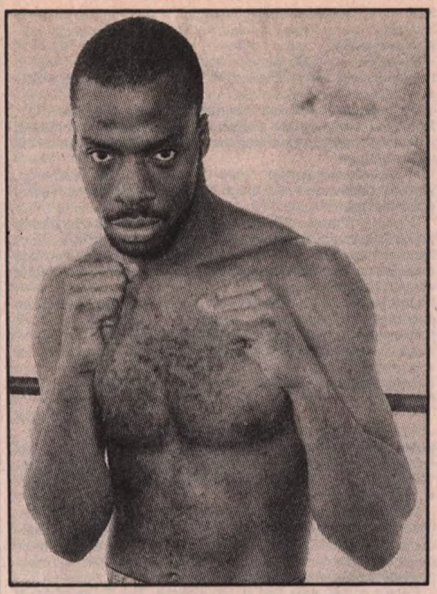
Stanley Longstreet, 139, Detroit, used a basic one-two to twice drop Luis Castillo, 141, Bklyn., for a TKO at 2:23 of the first, scheduled six. The unbeaten Longstreet won his ninth, while Castillo lost his third straight after three wins. Ref, Rainone.

Kevin Dickerson, 130, Bronx, took a deserved majority verdict over debuting William Robinson, 130¼, Newark, in a scrappy four. Kevin won his first after a loss. Ref, Cortez.

Promoters: Josephine Abercrombie & Stan Hoffman (HBA Inc.).
Matchmaker: Ron Katz.
Attendance: 300 (est.).
TV: USA Cable.
Judges: Milo Savage, John Poturaj & Thomas Kaczmarek.
Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.
Announcer Ed Derian.
(10-17-87)

J.R. JOWETT

READ THE RING



Troy Weaver was scratched from the Van Horn-Villa undercard when he TKO'd himself in the dressing room. Read Jack Obermayer's report for details.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Sands Hotel & Casino**—University of Kentucky student Darrin Van Horn, 154, Lexington, Ky., may have won a 10-round unanimous decision over Juan Alonso Villa, 153, Morelia, Mexico, but probably didn't give IBF junior middleweight champ Matthew Hilton, who was sitting at ringside, any reason to quit the sport.

Van Horn, who raised his mark to 34-0 with 22 KOs, displayed a fast pair of hands which came from many angles, plus the vim and vigor of youth to carry him through this briskly paced 30 minutes of spunky action.

On the other hand, he showed a complete lack of power punching and a sincere wish to be hit. On numerous occasions, Van Horn backed Villa up, but failed to score a knockdown.

Van Horn controlled the action, but got a rugged argument from the equally powerless but stubborn Mexican. With neither man possessing the dynamite needed to stop the other, the volume of work by Van Horn and the willingness of Villa won the bout the stamp of approval from the fans in attendance.

Scores: Phil Newmen had it 99-91, while Richard F. Murry scored 98-93. Eugene Grant saw it 98-92. *The Ring* card read 99-79, giving Van Horn a 10-8 edge in rounds five and nine. The referee was Randy Neumann. Villa is reportedly 27-10 with 18 KOs.

Ralph Smiley, 165, NYC, took a six-round split decision over Benny Sims, 164¾, Youngstown, Ohio. Sims came out strongly to pressure Smiley in rounds one, two and three. After the third Sims nearly fell apart and roles were reversed during the final three frames of this fine action bout.

Scores: Murry, 58-56 for Smiley. Newman had it 59-56, also for Smiley, while Grant had it 58-56, Sims. *The Ring* card had it 57-57. The referee was Frank Cappuccino.

In a matchup of southpaws, Darryl Lattimore, 149, Washington, D.C., won by TKO at 2:41 of the third over Wardell Langston, 151, Youngstown, Ohio. This scheduled six saw Lattimore on top from the outset. While there were no knockdowns, a bloodied and battered Langston was pinned in a neutral corner when referee Neumann stopped the bout.

A scheduled fourth bout between Troy Weaver and Troy Watson had to be scrubbed when Weaver accidentally tripped in his dressing stall and hit his head against a pillar, knocking himself nearly unconscious. The commission doctors examined Weaver and deemed him unfit to fight. He was taken to the local hospital for further observation, but released with no apparent serious damage suffered.

Timekeeper: Art Spell.
Promoter: HBA.
Matchmaker: Ron Katz.
(10-17-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

OHIO

▶**SANDUSKY—Sandusky High School Gymnasium**—A small crowd witnessed an exciting card in the first pro show held in this city.

The scheduled main event featured Joe Frazier Jr., 134, Philadelphia, against Ozzie O'Neal, 139, Youngstown, for the vacant Universal Boxing Association Pan American title, a crown won by O'Neal on a very dubious decision.

The bout started as expected, a ferocious battle of infighting with both fighters scoring heavily. O'Neal seemed to have the faster hands, but it was Frazier who was the stronger puncher, and he continuously rocked O'Neal with left hooks and overhand rights. It was apparent neither man could keep up the pace, and the action slowed in the final rounds of the scheduled 10.

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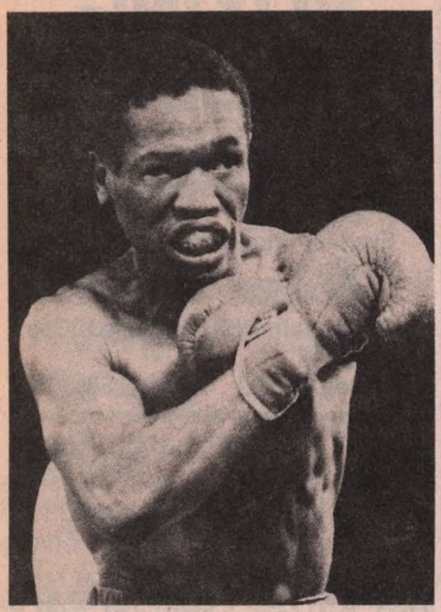

Ozzie O'Neal (above) received an unpopular majority decision over Joe Frazier Jr. after an exciting bout in Sandusky.

O'Neal's exhaustion became obvious as he continually held in the final rounds as Frazier ran him all over the ring. Frazier was getting caught with a few punches coming in, but was landing haymakers before O'Neal tied him up.

Unfortunately, the excellent bout was marred by the outrageous decision of the judges, who gave the call to O'Neal on an unpopular, majority decision. The Ohio Boxing Commission decided to save itself further embarrassment by not announcing the individual scores.

The main supporting bout saw Tyrone Trice, 150, Detroit, stop an outclassed Walter Cowens, 146, Milwaukee, at 0:55 of the third in a scheduled 10-round mismatch. A right hand to the body finished Cowens. Trice is ranked No. 7 in the welterweight division by *The Ring*.

Roger Brown, 142, Buffalo, had too many guns for willing Donald Gwynn, 146½, Charleston, West Virginia, scoring a TKO at 1:05 of the fourth in a slated six.

Sal Laquatra, 114, Pittsburgh, outboxed Francisco Lopez, 117, Mercedes, Texas, to take a unanimous four-round win in the first of two matchups that featured the Laquatra brothers versus the Lopez brothers.

In the second pairing, Tony Laquatra, 119½, Pittsburgh, scored a similar win over a tough Tony Lopez, Mercedes, Texas, in another four.

Governor Chavers, 174½, Canton, scored a TKO over Melvin Ricks, 176, Lorain, at 2:20 of the third in a scheduled four. Ricks had been down once in the second and again in the third and was getting pounded along the ropes when referee Jackie Keough had seen enough and called a halt.

Clint Huston, 130, Youngstown, won by unanimous decision over Barkely Woofolk, 131, Columbus, in a four.

Promoter: John Giachetti/TKO Productions.
Matchmaker: John Giachetti/TKO Productions.
Inspector: Jim Wilson.
Judges: Eddie Lee, Kathy Terrell & Floyd Northrup.
(10-10-87)

ERICH GLIEBE

▶AKRON—Jackie Lee's Entertainment Center—In his first scheduled 10-rounder, former Olympic gold medalist Jerry Page, 144, Columbus, dropped and stopped Detroit's Alex Byrd, 140, at 1:09 of Round Eight.

With a fine display of skill, Page, 6-0 with three knockouts, used a complete vocabulary of punches to break up the battle plans of Byrd, 19-7 with 17 KOs, as the loser was decked twice by left-right combinations that prompted the eighth-round stoppage by referee Pete Rademacher.

Page's corner work had to be admired. The combination of John Russell and Angelo Dundee was calm, cool and collected and made it look simple.

Unbeaten hometown star "Smokin'" Joe Walker, 153, scored his 13th win by outboxing Youngstown's Tony Hopkins, 155, in eight rounds. Walker's energetic strategy overpowered the crafty Hopkins, who is 7-4-1.

Manning Galloway, 158, stayed in full control and beat fellow Columbus middleweight Pete Seward, 159, in a six-rounder.

Youngstown's Lindsay Morgan, 162, kept a strong Rodney Tatum, 159, Akron, at arms length and outboxed him for a six-round decision.

In a surprise to all, Wadell Langston, 154, Youngstown, boxed and out-punched former Pan Am Games champ Louis Howard, 153, St. Louis, and blemished Howard's 10-0, nine KO record by winning an eight-round unanimous decision. Langston, who had no amateur experience, is 3-4.

Cleveland's Rick West, 130, was ahead on points in Round Four of a six-round fight when an unintentional clash of heads opened a cut over the right eye of Pittsburgh's Danny Fiallo, 129. The fight was awarded to West.

Promoter: Jo-Don Productions & Sarah's Deli.
Matchmaker: Robert Middleman.
Judges: Larry Dickey, Richard Husser & Tom Figley.
Timekeeper: Bruce Lorenzo.
Physicians: Logan & Ford.
Referees: Pete Rademacher & Joe Gonzales.
Attendance: 550.
(9-21-87)

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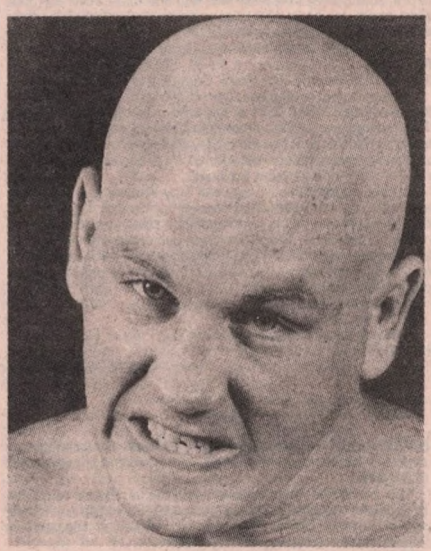


Heavyweight Jerry "Wimpy" Halstead, one of the busiest fighters in the world, ran his pro log to 28-2 with a 10-round decision over Wes Smith in Oklahoma City.

▶OKLAHOMA CITY—Jerry "Wimpy" Halstead improved his record to 28-2 with 25 knockouts, winning a unanimous 10-round decision over Wes Smith of Louisville, Kentucky.

Halstead, 227, and Smith, 272, began quickly, Halstead trying to unload rights and lefts while Smith moved around the ring, using his long arms to keep Halstead at bay. When Halstead did get close, Smith wrapped him up.

The action became fierce in the second as Wimpy tried to use his quick hands to catch Smith with combinations of two and three punches. By mid-fight, the pattern was set, Halstead being the aggressor while Smith tried to conserve his own energy while wearing Halstead down.

In the eighth round, the two exchanged combinations against the ropes, causing a cable to collapse which forced ring attendants to hold the corner post in position the final two rounds.

Before the 10th, both corners urged their charge to go for the knockout and both came out swinging.

Ron "The Animal" Johnson lived up to his nickname as he took every punch Paul Knight threw without blinking an eye. The two fought on even terms for three rounds until Johnson caught Knight with a flurry of punches to send him to the canvas. Johnson added another punch to Knight's jaw while Knight was down, upsetting the crowd and the referee. Knight made it into the next round, but a clean combination put him down for the count.

Oklahoma's Mark Hammond continued his winning streak with a four-round decision over Oklahoma City's Lee Cargle.

Oklahoma City's Buck Smith needed just one punch to knock out Duluth, Minnesota's Mike Gregory.

Kurt "The Hurt" Doefler needed two rounds to dispose of Mike "Awl" Dunn. Both are from Oklahoma City.
(10-6-87)

FRANK TEMPLE

▶OKLAHOMA CITY—Central Plaza Hotel—Local heavyweight Jerry "Wimpy" Halstead chalked up his 11th knockout of 1987, flattening Lorenzo Boyd in just 1:15 to win the state heavyweight championship.

The 23-year-old Halstead, of Midwest City, notched his 24th KO in a 26-2 record. He was stopped by Greg Page in November of 1986 and dropped a 10-round decision to Tony Tubbs in May of 1987.

Halstead landed a right, and the 27-year-old Boyd, who weighed 205 to Halstead's 224, hit the canvas. Boyd, of Cushing, attempted to rise, but was counted out by referee Steve Thomasson.

Speaking of the knockout punch, Boyd, who dropped to 19-11, told Jerry McConnell of *The Daily Oklahoman*, "I never saw it. I've been stunned before, but that was the first time I was ever made drunk by a punch."

Boyd, who was also knocked out by Mike Tyson, James Tillis and Tyrell Biggs, indicated he would retire.

"Mike Tyson cracked my nose in the first round, but the punch Wimpy threw had more on it than the one Tyson hit me with," said Boyd. "I had already decided if I didn't do anything here, this was it."

On the undercard, Oklahoma City middleweight Steve Mayo stopped Okmulgee's Rick Lewis in the second.

Okmulgee lightweight Mark Hammond posted a unanimous decision win over Vernon Garrett of Tulsa.

Rodney Porter, Green Pastures' welterweight, won a split decision over Miami's Larry Mayes.

Oklahoma City heavyweight Aaron Brown also won by split verdict, edging Miami's Tim Morrison.
(9-1-87)

▶OKLAHOMA CITY—Central Plaza Hotel—Heavyweight "Wimpy" Halstead continued his torrid campaigning, stopping Danny Ross in the third round of a scheduled 10.

Halstead was rocked by a right hook to the ear in the second round, and the session turned into a brawl with Halstead pummeling Ross in a corner.

Ross, who switches between boxing and kick-boxing, talked a better fight than he fought, telling Mike Fry of the *Tribune-Review* after the knockout loss, "I feel I'm the greatest. I'm the best built guy that ever went into the ring."

Halstead said Ross had a "very unorthodox style. I could see his conflict between karate and boxing and styles. I'm impressed with the guy, considering the fact that he took this fight as a substitute."

Halstead added, "I'm trying to change my style. I was a little bit more on the defense because, as you can tell, Mike Tyson has a very offensive style and in order to fight a guy like that you have to negate that offensive style with some good defensive action."
(9-15-87)

PENNSYLVANIA

▶PHILADELPHIA—Blue Horizon—Time was when Philly fighters carried on their own series of bitter rivalries, almost oblivious to the rest of the boxing world. Local "bragging rights" championships thrilled fans while, some say, ruining the fighters. Fans still haven't forgotten, turning out in near-record numbers to see Vaughn Hooks challenge for Kelvin Kelly's state light heavy crown. But they were sorely disappointed. Only seven short of the largest crowd here in promoter Peltz's long history, they found that times have changed. First, an ill-trained and nonchalant Kelly didn't trouble to make the weight, coming in at 179. Under the rules, a Kelly win would vacate the title, while Hooks, 175, could still claim the crown with a victory.

Secondly, the two were long-time gym mates as amateurs under "Toochie" Gordon before going separate ways, and seemed to know each other too well. Kelly tried a cautious, in-and-out style that produced a chess match in place of the anticipated beachhead invasion. The defrocked champion led on two cards after five, but was giving the challenger little to fear. Carol Polis had 25-22 and Ozzie Sadler 24-23, while Joe O'Neal had Hooks ahead, 24-22.

In the sixth, the dull affair broke wide open when Kelly stumbled into a swiping right and went down. He bounced up and protested the knockdown call, claiming he'd slipped on a freshly painted

emblem. But that was enough for Hooks. "The Turtle" came out of his shell, nailing Kelly with the same shot to wobble him without help from the canvas. Vaughn then showed his old pal no mercy, pounding him relentlessly and closing his left eye until ref Rudy Battle stopped the scheduled 12 at 2:33. The new champ won his 15th straight, while Kelly lost his third against 14 wins.

Anthony Boyle, 128, Kensington, got a little help from Battle in TKO'ing scrappy Chris Diaz, 128, Bronx, at 1:31 of the fourth, scheduled eight. Anthony was winning but being pressured, with his right eye ready to bust open. When Diaz hurt him with a right, he got too careless and walked into a right counter that turned him to jelly. Though staggered badly, the visitor's wobbling was keeping him from getting hit solidly when the ref gave him a quick thumb. Boyle went to 12-0-1, while Diaz sunk to 6-9.

Frankie Mitchell, 134½, S. Phila., thoroughly outboxed James Woodhouse, 136, N. Phila., then wobbled him in the final two for good measure to win a unanimous eight. Ref, Frank Cappuccino.

Chris Organtini, 136½, Norristown, was too strong and aggressive, besides showing signs of a jab, in stopping a confused Rafael Rodriguez, 138, Bronx, at 1:40 of the second, scheduled six. Rafael went down twice and quit. Ref, Cappuccino.

In a roof-raising street fight that could be cited for cruelty to humans, Jose Morales, 159, Bronx, was lucky to get a majority decision over Luis Rodriguez, 159½, Allentown, four. A draw would have been more in order. Ref, Cappuccino.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing Promotions.
Matchmakers: J. Russell Peltz & Gary Hegyi.
Attendance: 1,499, $17,119
TV: USA Cable.
Timekeeper: J.P. Mina.
Announcer: Hank Kropinski.
(10-1-87)

J.R. JOWETT

PUERTO RICO

▶**SAN JUAN—San Juan Hotel & Casino**—Danny Garcia, striving for a match with Marlon Starling, improved his record to 14-4 with an easy knockout of previously unbeaten Venezuelan Jay Carollo.

Carollo was no match for the hard-punching Garcia, who had things his own way until the referee decided to stop the scheduled 12-rounder for the Latin-American title in the third.

Garcia's mentors hope he will move into the WBA rankings, thus setting up a Starling match.

A co-feature 10 saw junior featherweight Julio Gervasio score an impressive 10-round KO over Ramon "Panadero" Cruz. Cruz gave a good account of himself though he came up short at times against his taller and sharper punching opponent, who is gunning for a title match against WBA kingpin Louie Espinoza. Dominican Gervasio, a resident of Puerto Rico, improved to 15-0-2, while the gutsy Cruz is 12-3.

Gervasio was well ahaed and had scored a knockdown when referee Falu-Quinones wisely halted matters with just seconds to go as Gervasio delivered a steady barrage to the head and body.

"I should have boxed my way out of trouble in the last heat, but I was fool enough to exchange leather with him," said a disappointed Cruz.

A third 10 saw heavy-hitting Jorge Maysonet (14-2) score a five-round KO over game and willing Dominican Jose Benitez. Benitez had been out of action over a year but gave a good account of himself before the long period of inactivity finally took its toll. The KO was Maysonet's second, Ivan Montalvo being the previous victim, since he was stopped by Danny Garcia.

Another 10 saw Chicago lightweight Louie Lomeli stop local Eddie Ruiz in the first round. Ruiz shook Lomeli with a right, but Lomeli came back to stop him with the same blow to raise his record to 18-0.

Flyweight prospect Wilfredo Vargas opened the card with a two-round KO over debuting Herminio Diaz.
(9-10-87)

MARIO RIVERA

SOUTH CAROLINA

▶**SPARTANBURG—National Guard Armory**—An eight-bout card produced eight knockouts, none of the fights lasting past three rounds.

Stacey McSwain, 165, Forest City, North Carolina, stopped Teddy Johnson, 160, Shelby, North Carolina, in the second round.

Roderick Thompson, 138, Wellford, stopped James Nash, 142, Spartanburg, in the first.

Sam Lation, 145, Spartanburg, stopped Steve Motter, 147, Valley Falls, in three.

Melvin Durham, Forest City, North Carolina, ended his bout with Robbie Gregg, 150, Cowpens, in the second.

Danny Wofford, 175, Columbia, stopped Robert Brewton, 170, Spartanburg, in two.

James Mullins, 150, Spartanburg, stopped Grady Henderson, Boiling Springs, in the second.

Mike McDaniels, 210, Gaffney, stopped Marion Bridges, 245, in the third.

Scott Johnson, 140, Valley Falls, stopped Alton Hardy, 137, Spartanburg, in the third.

Promoter: Bill Mitchem.
Matchmaker: Bill Mitchem & Joe Talent.
Announcer: Jeff Herlin.
Judges: Richard Harold, Gary Ambury & Margie Hammond.
Referees: Charles Hammond & Kenny Porter.
Timekeepers: Allen Brown & Ralph Parnell.
Physician: J.C. Bull.
Attendance: 350 (est.).
(7-30-87)

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS—Omni-Daisy Theatre**—Greg "The Beale Street Hitman" Dickson captured the vacant Mid South Boxing's Southern welterweight title with a 10-round TKO over Nashville's Anthony Bryant.

Dickson, 146½, Memphis, started the scheduled 12-rounder quickly, knocking down Bryant, 146¼, in the second round. But Bryant came back to gain control with his jab in rounds four through seven.

The two traded powerful shots in the eighth and ninth, but Dickson dropped Bryant again in the 10th with a short left-right combination. Bryant rose at nine, but Dickson floored him again and referee Jim Kidd called a halt at 1:37.

"It feels like I earned every bit of it," Dickson, who raised his record to 12-1, told Pete Wickham of *The Commercial Appeal*. "And as hard as I worked to get this, nobody is going to take it away from me."

Nashville's Jerome Coffee, who lost a 15-round bantamweight title shot to Australia's Jeff Fenech in December, 1985, continued his comeback with his second bout in a week, winning a six-round decision over Memphis' Kenny Cole, 134. The 29-year-old Coffee was subbing for Cole's original foe, Brian Brown. Coffee, who weighed 125½ in improving his record to 27-7 as Cole slipped to 4-2, said, "I need to get sharp again, and I need to start fighting guys my own weight."

Paul Thorn, 153, Tupelo, Mississippi, stopped Danny Thomas, 155, Evansville, Indiana, at 1:15 of the second round of a scheduled six. Thomas, subbing for his brother, Gary, who couldn't make weight, dropped to 0-4 but knocked down Thorn before being stopped.

Lexington, Kentucky's Dean Meadows, 160¼, stopped Hamilton, Alabama's Roger Holloway, 165, at 2:18 of the fifth of a scheduled six. Meadows is 5-0, Holloway, 3-4-1.

Muncie, Indiana's Jerry Bilyeau, 140, made a successful debut with a four-round split decision win over Memphis' Mike Flowers, 142, who fell to 1-1.

Promoter: Tom Harmon/Mid South Boxing Inc.
Matchmaker: Red Fortner.
Announcer: Sleepy Rutherford.
Judges: Gilbert Beam, James Perkins, Haywood Watts, Jim Harbert, Sam Garland, Mark Atcherson & Buddy Holderfield.
Referees: Jim Kidd & Sam Garland.
Timekeeper: Rod Cardone.
Physicians: Jeff Hoover & Lee Wilson.
Attendance: 600 (est.).
(10-6-87)

MICHAEL GLENN

VIRGINIA

▶**RICHMOND—Showplace**—Richmond's Al Scott, 187, scored a five-round TKO over Norfolk's Charlie Smith, 190, in the scheduled 10-round main event.

Ric Perry, 165, Richmond, captured an eight-round decision win over Norfolk's John Ford, 164.

The remainder of the card consisted of scheduled four-rounders.

Washington, D.C.'s Randy Edge, 158, stopped Richmond's Keith Hunter, 160, in the opening round.

William Galliwango, 150, won by decision over Norfolk's Dion George, also 150.

Charles Dent, 184, Washington D.C., knocked out Richmond's Walter Atkinson, 182, in the third.

Washington, D.C.'s Demetrius Davis, 133, won by decision over Roanoke's Abdul Muhammad, 134.

Promoter: Ray Brown.
Referees: Wollesen, Witt, Levy & Green.
Judges: Traylor, Bryan & Doggette.
Timekeepers: Gold & Latham.
Physician: Pulizzi.
(9-19-87)

▶**NORFOLK—Omni International**—Mike Rouse, 226, captured the Virginia heavyweight championship with a four-round TKO over James Reid in a scheduled 10-rounder.

The 26-year-old Rouse hails from Chesapeake, while Reid, 34 years old, is from Richmond.

Richmond's Ricky Perry, 164, took a 10-round decision from Norfolk's John Ford, 159.

Three four-rounders filled out the card.

William Galliwango, 149, Richmond, and Dion George, 150, Norfolk, drew.

James Miller, 163, Richmond, stopped North Carolina's Frank Knight, 158, in two.

Norfolk's Stacey Burris, 142, won a decision over North Carolina's Levon Rouse, 143.

Promoter: Powerhouse Promotions.
Referees: Rothenberg & Wollesen.
Judges: Traylor, Witt & Rial.
Timekeepers: Gold & Latham.
Physician: Wong.
(10-11-87)

CANADA

▶**SHEDIAC, N.B.—Shediac Festival Arena**—An entertaining five-bout card featuring all local fighters drew a fair attendance.

Over 10 rounds, Gary McIntyre, 159½, Baie Ste. Anne, stopped Pierre Collette, 154½, Moncton, at 2:30 of Round Eight after a hard-fought bout.

McIntyre took over in the eighth round and had Collette in trouble, causing referee Gordie Gallant to halt the bout.

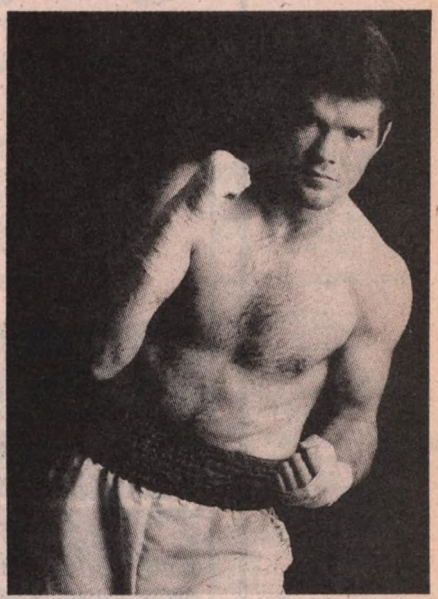
Moncton's Ohadiz Drake, 174, stopped Rexton's Ken Barlow, 173, at the 59-second mark of the third round of a scheduled six.

Marcel Maillet, 145, Moncton, and Tony Sanipas, 150, Rexton, slugged it out to a six-round draw.

Brian Fontaine, 150, Moncton, stopped Bob Green, 151, Fredericton, at 2:05 of the third of a scheduled six.

In a scheduled four, Jean Arseault, Shediac, stopped Jamie Donovan, Fredericton, at 2:55 of the second.

Promoter: Francis Leger.
Referee: Gordie Gallant.
Judges: McMellon, Brodie & Durelle.
Timekeeper: Petitpas.
Announcer: Doiron.
Physician: Allanach.
Attendance: 600.
(9-20-87)



Shawn O'Sullivan disappointed a crowd of over 5,000 fans in Halifax when he iced local favorite Chris Clark inside two rounds.

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▶**HALIFAX—Halifax Forum**—More than 5,000 fans showed up to witness one of their favorites, Chris Clarke, face Toronto's Shawn O'Sullivan in a 10-round bout.

The evening ended early, four minutes after the initial bell, when Clarke was counted out flat on his back.

In a matter of minutes, Clarke had recovered and was talking retirement. For many of the Halifax fight fans who had bet on Clarke, recovery took a little longer.

Both Jerry Fraser, Clarke's manager, and promoter Sonny McPhee worked very hard on the promotion, confident that the experience gained by Clarke in a decade of pro fighting would be too much for O'Sullivan to cope with. However, in his prefight interviews Clarke was very negative. With his legs lacking the speed they once had and his reflex action slowed considerably, Clarke did not go into this fight with the confidence of a winner.

The initial round, strickly a feeling-out process, went to the southpaw Clarke, who moved and scored with straight right-hand leads, while O'Sullivan took his time to find the range.

Starting Round Two, O'Sullivan took the action to his opponent and began scoring with straight left-hand punches. Barely a minute had gone by when O'Sullivan shot over a solid right hand to the jaw of Clarke behind a left lead. Clarke dropped his hands and moved back, but before he could regain his composure, O'Sullivan stepped in and landed a second right that dropped Clarke flat on his back.

The count was a mere formality and Clarke was not long in announcing his retirement. The O'Sullivan payday was Clarke's biggest in 33 bouts, but not big enough to keep Clarke in retirement, and he will be back in action after a rest.
(9-29-87)

▶**GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA**—Taking part in his 20th pro bout and the first before his hometown fans, Willie deWit stopped Ohio's Donnie Long in the fifth round.

The promotion fell far short of expectations, the main event failing to interest the hometown fans and the undercard being sub-standard.

All deWit had to do was use Long as a stationary heavy punching bag for 12 minutes before Long quit. During the four rounds it lasted, Long never came out of a corner to fight. There was no action in the center of the ring.

After some heavy body blows in the third and fourth rounds, Long decided he had been used long enough as a punching bag and did not answer the bell for the fifth round.

The result did nothing to improve the status of deWit, whose record is 18-1-1.

On the undercard, lightweight Harpal Talham of Edmonton improved to 7-0 by stopping Calgary's Mike Short at 1:12 of the second round. Short is 6-3.

In a middleweight bout, Robbie Stowell, Calgary, improved to 2-1 with a unanimous decision over Vancouver's Dean Shannon, who dropped to 3-3.

Los Angeles heavyweight David Yonko, 8-4-1, took a unanimous decision over Blake Gabriel of Edmonton, who slipped to 2-2.

Promoter: Willie deWit Enterprises.

Attendance: 3,500.
(10-3-87)

NOTES: Three former Canadian champions could be lost to the Canadian boxing scene. Chris Clarke of Halifax, former welterweight and middleweight champion, decided to retire after his second-round KO loss to Toronto's Shawn O'Sullivan. Tony Pep of Vancouver, former featherweight champion, is in Los Angeles and most likely will secure more bouts there than in Canada. And, Toronto's Remo DiCarlo, who was stripped of his title for not defending, has called it a day and retired.

FRANK ALLNUTT

MEXICO

▶**TIJUANA**—WBC junior lightweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez won easily on points in 12 rounds over Danilo Cabrera of the Dominican Republic to retain his title.

Jesus "Babe" Gallardo KO'd former Mexican middleweight champion Marcos Geraldo in two.

Mario "Azabache" Martinez TKO'd Jorge Gomez in 10 of a junior lightweight bout.

Mexican welterweight champion Jorge Vaca won a 10-round decision over former WBC junior welterweight champion Saoul Mamby of Jamaica.

Junior lightweight Rogelio Juarez outscored Darryl Hudson of the United States over 10 rounds.
(8-21-87)

SOUTH BAJA CALIFORNIA

▶**LA PAZ**—Francisco Carballo KO'd Francisco Hernandez in nine to retain his Mexican middleweight title.

Junior welterweight Ramon Aviles TKO'd Raul Lopez in seven.

Welterweight Alberto Geraldo embalmed Oscar "Ringo" Vega in 10.
(7-31-87)

CHIAPAS

▶**TAPACHULA**—Sergio Tapana Arreoloa KO'd Roberto Collins of Panama in three rounds of a lightweight match.

Bantamweight Daniel Guillen scored a 10-round decision over Reyes Samayoa.

Featherweight Tito Ventura chilled Manuel Rodriguez in two.
(7-31-87)

CHIHUAHUA

▶**JUAREZ**—Former Mexican junior flyweight champion Luis Fernando "Pringa" Hernandez won from Cesar "Cobrita" Soto in 10.

WORLD RATINGS
BY THE INTERNATIONAL BOXING FEDERATION
(As of October 1, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Tyson (US)
1. Tyrell Biggs (US)
2. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
3. Carl Williams (US)
4. Tony Tucker (US)
5. James Smith (US)
6. James Broad (US)
7. James Douglas (US)
8. Larry Alexander (US)
9. Tony Tubbs (US)
10. Joe Bugner (Australia)
11. Frank Bruno (England)
12. Willie deWit (Canada)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Evander Holyfield (US)
1. Dwight Qawi (US)
2. Anthony Witherspoon (US)
3. Alfonso Ratliff (US)
4. Sherman Griffin (US)
5. Bash Ali (US)
6. Rickey Parkey (US)
7. Jose Flores (Uruguay)
8. Sammy Reeson (England)
9. Jeff Lampkin (US)
10. Tony Fulilangi (Tonga)
11. Patrick Lumumba (Kenya)
12. Daniel Netto (Argentina)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Bobby Czyz (US)
1. Charles Williams (US)
2. Alex Blanchard (Netherlands)
3. Rufino Angulo (France)
4. Nestor Giovannini (Argentina)
5. Anthony Willis (US)
6. Ramzi Hassan (US)
7. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
8. Blaine Longsden (England)
9. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
10. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
11. Jorge Salgado (Argentina)
12. Chris Reid (US)

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Chong-Pal Park (Korea)
1. Don Lalonde (Canada)
2. Lindell Holmes (US)
3. Vincent Boulware (US)
4. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
5. Dario Mattioni (Argentina)
6. Nicky Walker (US)
7. Doug DeWitt (US)
8. Sanderline Williams (US)
9. Tarmo Uusivirta (Finland)
10. Lenny LaPaglia (US)
11. Mustafa Hamsho (US)
12. Doug Sam (Australia)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Michael Olajide (Canada)
2. Frank Tate (US)
3. Marvin Hagler (US)
4. Iran Barkley (US)
5. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
6. Michael Nunn (US)
7. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
8. Herol Graham (England)
9. Mark Janssen (Australia)
10. Darnell Knox (US)
11. Roberto Duran (Panama)
12. Troy Darrell (US)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Matthew Hilton (Canada)
1. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
2. Buster Drayton (US)
3. Said Skouma (France)
4. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
5. Troy Waters (Australia)
6. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
7. Donald Curry (US)
8. Robert Hines (US)
9. Jack Callahan (US)
10. John Mugabi (Uganda)
11. Felipe Nino (Panama)
12. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (England)
1. Yun-Kil Chung (Korea)
2. Simon Brown (US)
3. Tyrone Trice (US)
4. Rollin Williams (US)
5. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
6. Mark Breland (US)
7. Maurice Blocker (US)
8. Felipe Canela (US)
9. Kirkland Laing (England)
10. Bobby Joe Young (US)
11. Tommy Ayers (US)
12. Al Long (US)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Frankie Warren (US)
2. Buddy McGirt (US)
3. Euk-Sik Kim (Korea)
4. Jong Jung Pacquing (Philippines)
5. Joe Manley (US)
6. Meldrick Taylor (US)
7. Harold Brazier (US)
8. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
9. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
10. John Meekins (US)
11. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
12. Wilf Gentzen (Australia)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Vinny Pazienza (US)
1. Greg Haugen (US)
2. Frankie Randall (US)
3. Pernell Whitaker (US)
4. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
5. Amancio Castro (Colombia)
6. Fred Pendleton (US)
7. Gert Bo Jacobsen (Denmark)
8. John Duplessis (US)
9. Terrence Alli (US)
10. Sakad Petchyindee (Thailand)
11. Darryl Tyson (US)
12. Lester Ellis (Australia)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Rocky Lockridge (US)
1. Johnny de la Rosa (US)
2. Chil-Sung Chun (Korea)
3. Harold Knight (US)
4. Pulo Sugaray (Indonesia)
5. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
6. Tomas DaCruz (Brazil)
7. Salvatore Bottiglieri (Italy)
8. Jim McDonnell (England)
9. Ariel Duran (Philippines)
10. Felipe Orozco (Colombia)
11. Geron Porras (Philippines)
12. Alvaro Bohorquez (Colombia)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Antonio Rivera (Puerto Rico)
1. Kwon Chul (Korea)
2. Calvin Grove (US)
3. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
4. Lupe Suarez (US)
5. Hector Lopez (US)
6. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
7. Mauricio Stecca (Italy)
8. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
9. Hirohomi Minami (Japan)
10. Alexander Wassa (Indonesia)
11. Jae-Yong Hwang (Korea)
12. Jamie Polo (Colombia)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Seung-Hoon Lee (Korea)
1. Moises Fuentes (Colombia)
2. Jose Sanabria (US)
3. Young-Woon Park (Korea)
4. Luis Mendoza (Colombia)
5. Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)
6. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
7. Valerio Nati (Italy)
8. Jesse Benevides (US)
9. James Pipps (US)
10. Aaron Lopez (US)
11. Ruben Palacio (Colombia)
12. Jorge Diaz (US)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Kelvin Seabrooks (US)
1. Earnie Cantuluna (Philippines)
2. Thierry Jacob (France)
3. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
4. Luis Curtis (US)
5. Jimmy Navarro (US)
6. Fabrice Benichou (France)
7. Miguel Maturana (Colombia)
8. Raul Perez (Mexico)
9. Ezequiel Hernandez (Colombia)
10. Wiem Sapulete (Indonesia)
11. Gaby Canizales (US)
12. Louis Gomis (France)

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
1. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
2. Ki-Chang Kim (Korea)
3. Juan Polo (Colombia)
4. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
5. Soon-Chun Kwon (Korea)
6. Elly Pical (Indonesia)
7. Francisco Alvarez (Colombia)
8. Cesar Polanco (Dominican Republic)
9. Mauro Diaz (Mexico)
10. Chun Huh (Korea)
11. Pat Bracero (Philippines)
12. Dong-Chung Lee (Korea)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Chang-Ho Choi (Korea)
1. Rolando Bohol (Philippines)
2. Duke McKenzie (England)
3. Bi-Wong Chung (Korea)
4. Dodie Penalosa (Philippines)
5. Elvis Alvarez (Colombia)
6. Ramon Medal (US)
7. Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)
8. Thanomsak Singbobe (Thailand)
9. Loremer Pontino (Philippines)
10. Mauricio Bernal (Colombia)
11. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
12. Moon-Jin Choi (Korea)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Jum-Hwan Choi (Korea)
1. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
2. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
3. Mario DeMarco (Argentina)
4. Sonny Vidal (Philippines)
5. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
6. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
7. Azadin Anhar (Indonesia)
8. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
9. Toribio Riascos (Colombia)
10. Virgillo Chifundo (Panama)
11. Roy Thompson (Panama)
12. Tacy Macalos (Philippines)

MINI FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Kuyung-Yon Lee (Korea)
1. Boy Lucas (Philippines)
2. John Arief (Indonesia)
3. Samuth Sithnarvepol (Thailand)
4. Eric Chavez (Philippines)
5. Romy Ceniza (Philippines)
6. Trang Bunlerd (Thailand)
7. Nana Suhana (Indonesia)
8. Rolando Protacio (Philippines)
9. Mai Thonburifarm (Thailand)
10. Sung-Woo Lee (Korea)
11. Thanjai Kiatthavatchai (Thailand)
12. Julius Leojan (Indonesia)

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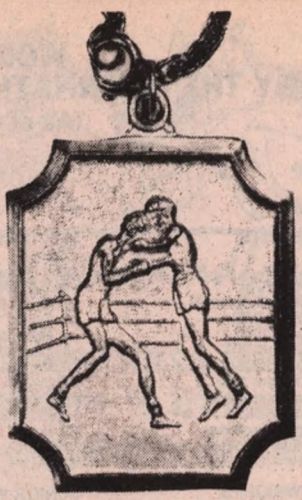

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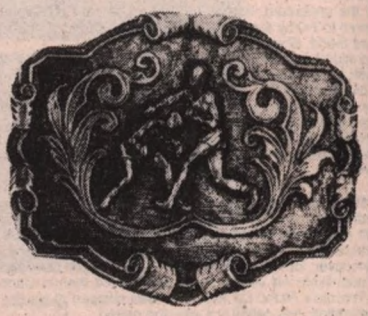

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DURANGO

▶**GOMEZ PALACIO**—Jesus "Chuyin" Rojas scored a 10-round decision over Juan Guerrero in a junior lightweight battle.
Lightweight Martin Galvan KO'd Jorge Hernandez in three.
Featherweight Jorge Palomares chilled Roberto Alonso in one.

GUERRERO

▶**ACAPULCO**—Salvador Zamora TKO'd Bernardo Sandoval in eight rounds of a bantamweight bout.
(7-31-87)
▶**ACAPULCO**—Junior flyweight Jose Luis Aguilar won over Fernando Hernandez in 10.
Featherweight "Costeno" Molina bested Herminio Hernandez in 10.
Alberto "Camanay" Perez won by disqualification over Guillermo Esquivel in a lightweight bout.
Flyweight Daniel Pineda whipped Alberto Davila in four.
(8-5-87)
▶**ACAPULCO**—Flyweight Francisco "Buzo" Gonzalez beat Armando "Tontin" Velazco in 10.
(8-14-87)

JALISCO

▶**GUADALAJARA**—Wilebardo "Willy" Salazar chilled Gilberto Sosa in one to capture the Mexican flyweight title.
Bantamweight Victor Manuel Rabanales won from Julio Blanco in 10.
Ariel Reyes TKO'd Rosendo "Rocky" Alonso in four, lightweights.
Bantamweight Martin Alvarez TKO'd Ruben Murillo in four.
Gumersindo Vargas decisioned Gonzalo Gonzalez in four, flyweights.
(8-21-87)
▶**GUADALAJARA**—Hard-hitting bantamweight Juan Alonso Villa KO'd Sergio Hernandez in two.
Featherweight Jorge Hernandez TKO'd Mario Hernandez in three.
David Camchola TKO'd Gabriel Sanchez in three, featherweights.
Flyweight Alejandro Arce TKO'd Alejandro Eustolio in three.
Junior bantamweight Ismael Rodriguez TKO'd Martin Reyes in three.
(8-28-87)

MEXICO CITY (FEDERAL DISTRICT)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—Fernando "Escorpion" Segura won from Gerardo Sanchez in 10, featherweights.
Miguel Angel "Huracan" Juarez TKO'd Araulfo Contreras in one, bantamweights.
Fidel Martinez TKO'd Armando Perez in six, junior bantamweights.
Bantamweight Francisco Rosas TKO'd Alfonso Tellez in five.
Jorge Diaz bested Antonio Ramirez in four, junior featherweights.
(8-1-87)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Former Mexican flyweight champion Elid "Jimmy" Fernandez won by disqualification from Felix Montiel in four to capture the new Mexican junior bantamweight title.
Armando Castro TKO'd Mijailo Hernandez in five, flyweights.
Miguel Gonzalez KO'd Fernando "Soldadito" Toran in five, featherweights.
Featherweight Rogelio Perez TKO'd Israel Cervantes in five.
Jose Ulloa TKO'd Lupe Medina in two, welterweights.
(8-8-87)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Former WBC bantamweight champion, veteran Carlos Zarate, won easily by five-round TKO over Richard Savage of the United States in a junior featherweight bout.
Former world junior flyweight title contender German Torres and Rodolfo Alvarado fought a seven-round technical draw.
Mexican junior lightweight champion Roger Arevalo destroyed Vincente Velazco in one of a non-title bout.
Veteran Ricardo "Finito" Lopez won from Javier Alonso in 10, junior flyweights.
Ruben Rivera chilled Hugo Perez in five, junior featherweights.
(8-15-87)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Sergio "Fortachon" Hernandez and Luis Rivera drew in a 10-round welterweight match.
Pablo Gomez TKO'd former Chiapas junior flyweight and flyweight champion David "Chino" Anorve in three.
Featherweight Javier Ulloa TKO'd Cristobal Lopez in one.
Jose Sarabia KO'd Domingo Dominguez in one, featherweights.
Juan Carlos Lopez chilled Arturo Gonzalez in three, bantamweights.
(8-7-87)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Sergio Aguirre won from veteran Sergio Sanchez in 10, welterweights.
Miguel Landin TKO'd Juan Estrada in one, welterweights.
In another welterweight bout, Fernando Diaz TKO'd Jose Valdez in one.
Alfonso Martinez TKO'd Mario Carmona in one, lightweights.
Raul Juarez TKO'd Nicolas Cornejo in one, featherweights.
Joaquin Rodriguez and Alfonso Salinas drew in a six-round featherweight match.
(8-22-87)
▶**MEXICO CITY**—Former WBC junior lightweight champion Rafael "Bazooka" Limon TKO'd Santos "Apache" Moreno in four rounds of a lightweight bout.
Rafael Morales won a technical decision over Javier "Suzuki" Diaz in four, flyweights.
Jose Cruz and Tomas Cordoba fought an eight-round featherweight draw.
Mauricio Ferrer TKO'd Alejandro Corrales in two, flyweights.
Martin de Paz TKO'd Rafael Campos in two, bantamweights.
(8-29-87)

MORELOS

▶**CUAUTLA**—Artemio "Elvis" Manzane TKO'd Polo Franco in six rounds, junior featherweights.
Moises Sorino won from Rogelio "Rocky" Perez in six, flyweights.
(7-31-87)

NUEVO LEON

▶**MONTERREY**—Alberto Cortes halted Raymundo "Battling" Torres Jr. in eight, middleweights.
(8-28-87)

PUEBLA

▶**HUACHINANGO**—Cesareo Hernandez outpointed Alfredo Gonzalez in 10, lightweights.
Ruben Gallegos beat Ramon Vilchis in 10, bantamweights.
Jose Rodriguez and Jose Merino drew in an eight-round flyweight bout.
Armando Castro decisioned Francisco Aviles in six, featherweights.
(8-7-87)

SINALOA

▶**GUASAVE**—"Changuito" Carmona beat "Gato" Flores in 10 rounds, bantamweights.
(8-28-87)

SONORA

▶**OBREGON**—Miguel Angel Dominguez outscored Martin Quiroz in 10, welterweights.
(8-22-87)

TAMAULIPAS

▶**MADERO**—Martin Herrera TKO'd Gerardo Montalvo in nine, featherweights.
(8-20-87)

VERA CRUZ

▶**CORDOBA**—Ricardo Aguilar beat Jorge Trujillo in 10, bantamweights.
(8-16-87)

YUCATAN

▶**MERIDA**—Gaspar Pool won from Alfonso Perez Robinson in 12 rounds to retain the Yucatan lightweight crown in an exciting bout.
Victor Caceres TKO'd Jaime Canul in two, junior flyweights.
Promising Oscar Gallegos TKO'd Ismael Perez in two, featherweights.
Alex Camargo chilled Jorge Chel in two, bantamweights.
Miguel Chi and Alcibiades Gallegos drew in a four-round flyweight match.
(8-26-87)

EDUARDO AMER

CENTRAL AMERICA

JAMAICA

▶**KINGSTON—Pegasus Hotel**—The revival of boxing here recieved its biggest boost with the return of veteran internationally known promoter Lucien Chen.
Chen put on a dinner/boxing show that drew a sell-out crowd in spite of the highest-ever admission prices, the card being a benefit for former Commonwealth lightweight champion Bunny Grant and Kid Banga, a former local lightweight champion who is crippled. The crowd got its monies' worth, with Jamaicans pulling a clean sweep of all five matches.
The feature had Simon Brown, fighting out of the United States, stopping Dexter Smith, United States, in Round Five of their 10-round welterweight contest.
Brown, ranked No. 4 by *The Ring*, used his skillful defense against Smith, who waged all-out war over the first three rounds. Smith missed often, but picked up points through his volume of punches. Brown eventually took charge, replying with fewer, but more accurate and effective shots.
When Smith went down, he was more exhausted by his own effort than hurt, but he would have been in trouble and his corner threw in the towel to save him.
In the co-feature, flyweight Richard "Shrimpy" Clarke posted a unanimous 10-round decision over former WBC champion Prudencio Cardona of Colombia. Cardona used his greater experience, testing Clarke with tricks of the trade, some of which are not in the book. Cardona persisted in using foul tactics, particularly hitting on the break, and his bear hugs proved almost

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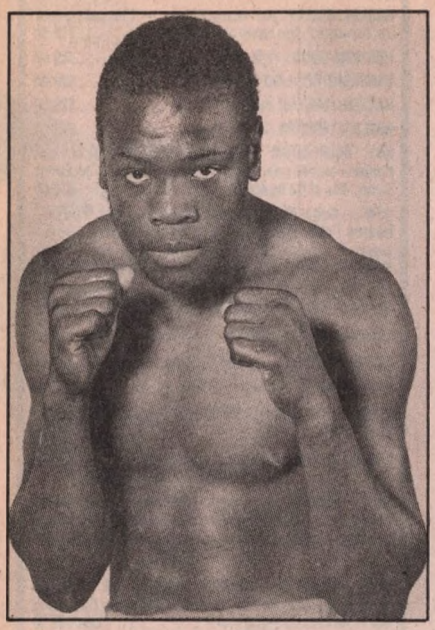

Welterweight contender Simon Brown returned home to Jamaica and stopped Dexter Smith in Round Five.

impossible to loosen, proving he must have been a student of James "Bonecrusher" Smith. Cardona could have been disqualified, but instead lost by scores of 99-95 (twice) and 99-93. *The Ring* had it 99-94.

The thriller of the card was Michael Dewar's 10-round stoppage of American Louis Coleman in a light heavyweight rematch. An unfit Dewar was stopped by Coleman in his last outing and there was doubt he could remedy his condition for this return. He gave, however, a surprising performance. The rugged and tough Coleman tried to repeat, but Dewar, using good defense and footwork, avoided being caught by any solid punch and dominated with hard left jabs until the eighth. In that session, Coleman tried to turn the tide and went all-out. It was enough to win the round, but Dewar used the ring well in Round Nine and caught Coleman with some surprising power combinations in the final round. Coleman, on the verge of a KO defeat, was saved by the referee, and the crowd responded with a standing ovation for Dewar.

Paul Davis, local welterweight champion, stopped Francisco Tapia in Roiund Two of a scheduled eight.

Donald Hayles, son of former Commonwealth lightweight champ Percy Hayles, lost a four-round decision to Garfield McKenzie, a welterweight making his pro bow.

GILLIE CAMPBELL

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★ BOXING UPDATE ★

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TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

▶PORT OF SPAIN—Jean Pierre Sports Complex Gymnasium—Tyrone Downes, the WBC's No. 2-ranked featherweight from Barbados, scored a TKO over relatively unknown Feliz Guzman, 123¾, Venezuela, at 2:44 of the second round of a scheduled 10.

Referee George St. Aude consulted the ringside physician after Guzman was cut over the right eye.

David Noel, 153, the junior middleweight champion of Trinidad and Tobago, scored a TKO over Venezuela's Jose Castillo, 149½, at 1:20 of the fourth round of a scheduled 10.

Another scheduled 10 went the distance, Guyana's Marcelle Daniels, 138¼, winning by unanimous decision over Venezuela's Livini Rivas, 133½.

Four-rounders completed the card.

Clifford Vaughn, 113½, Guyana, won a close decision from Venezuela's Jose Munoz, 114.

Trinidad's Ulric Johnson, 126, outpointed Trinidad's Hamil Harrikissoon, 126½.

David Charles, 160, Trinidad, outpointed Derek Joseph, 159, Trinidad.

Promoter: Classic Promotions.

Attendance: 1,000 (est.).

(10-2-87)

GEORGE BECKLES

SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA

▶BUENOS AIRES—Argentine junior lightweight champion Julio Miranda outpointed Jorge Pompé in 10.
(8-7-87)

▶SANTA FE—Young prospect Julio César Vázquez outpointed Antonio Ricardo Juárez in 10, welterweights.
(8-7-87)

▶VILLA MERCEDES—Raúl Roque Bianco was outpointed by Raúl Rosas in 10 via a controversial decision, lightweights.
(8-7-87)

▶SALTA—Rising Ricardo Nuñez outclassed Jorge Pino in 10, middleweights.
(8-7-87)

▶RESISTENCIA—Ramón Abeldaño and Osvaldo Diaz drew in 10, middleweights.
(8-7-87)

▶VIEDMA—Miguel Mosna outpointed Juan Carlos Rodriguez in 10, light heavyweights.
(8-7-87)

▶COMODORO RIVADAVIA—Sergio Ronconi and Angel Caro drew in 10, middleweights.
(8-7-87)

▶PRESIDENCIA ROQUE SAENZ PEÑA—Juan Carlos Cortés knocked Gustavo Lugo out in seven, bantamweights.
(8-7-87)

▶NECOCHEA—Jorge Guido Cambiasso won the vacant Argentine heavyweight title by outpointing Raúl Venturelli in 12 rounds. The new champion is the poorest in the Argentine history of heavyweight title.
(8-14-87)

▶MENDOZA—Hugo (Pajarito) Hernández outpointed Jorge Tejada in 10, welters.
(8-14-87)

▶SALTA—Local welterweight Héctor Vilte outpointed veteran Lorenzo Garcia in 10 through an outstanding performance. Vilte upped his record to 24-3-3 with 10 KOs and his unbeaten series to his last 24 outings.
(8-14-87)

▶PERGAMINO—Uruguayan José Maria Flores Burlón, who is rated first among the cruiserweights by the WBC, outpointed Antonio Ubelar in 10.
(8-14-87)

▶RIO GALLEGOS—Eduardo Benevent outclassed Hugo (Paturuzú) Luero in 10, welters.
(8-14-87)

▶VILLA MARIA—South American and Latin American junior bantamweight champion Gustavo Ballas outpointed José Rufino Narvaéz in 10.
(8-14-87)

▶BARILOCHE—Argentine junior flyweight champion Héctor Patri outpointed Chilean flyweight Jaime Miranda in 10.
(8-14-87)

▶BUENOS AIRES—Argentine junior featherweight champion Pedro Décima outpointed Raúl Gómez in 10.
(8-15-87)

▶MENDOZA—Carlos Laciar outpointed Patricio Gil in 10, featherweights.

Eduardo Galán and Luis Francisco Rodriguez drew in 10, lightweights.
(8-21-87)

▶CORRIENTES—Argentine and South American bantamweight champion Lucio (Metralleta) López—a KO artist rated first by the WBC—TKO'd former Mexican champion Jorge Ramirez in the eighth.
(8-21-87)

▶SALTA—South American welterweight champion Miguel Angel (Puma) Arroyo knocked Venezuelan José Campos out in the second.
(8-21-87)

▶RAFAELA—Argentine light heavyweight champion Néstor Giovannini outclassed Angel Caro in 10.
(8-21-87)

▶RESISTENCIA—Adolfo Arce Rossi and Osvaldo Diaz drew in 10, welters.
(8-21-87)

▶SANTA ROSA—Argentine junior middleweight champion Hugo Marinangeli outpointed South American champion Ramón (Potro) Ramos in 12 on the way to retain his national crown.
(8-28-87)

▶BUENOS AIRES—Unbeaten prospect Ricardo Nuñez outpointed Enrique Areco in 10, middleweights.
(8-29-87)

BOLIVIA

▶TARIJA—South American lightweight champion Jesús Romero, from Argentina, outpointed local Carmelo Cazón in 12 rounds and retained his crown.
(8-8-87)

BRAZIL

▶NOTES: If *The Ring* wants to establish the "worst decision of the year," 1987's award should be for the fight in which Brazilian, South American and Continental American champion José Adilson (Maguila) Rodrigues outpointed former WBA world champion James (Bonecrusher) Smith in 10 rounds at the Ibirapuera Stadium.

From the beginning, Bonecrusher attacked and Maguila escaped in order to avoid risks. It seemed the bout would have an early end. In this way, Bonecrusher won the first round and continued ruling the match up to the fourth. In the fifth, Maguila recovered and hit Smith with strong punches.

But in the sixth the fight returned to the original situation under the increasing control by Bonecrusher, who absolutely dominated Maguila in the eighth. In this round, the Brazilian was groggy and close to going to the canvas. But in such moments, the public began to fling small paper balls into the ring and Brazilian referee Antonio Bernardo frequently stopped the fight in order to pick them up, which gave time to permit Maguila's survival.

In the ninth, Maguila appeared recovered again and connected with some good punches, but in the 10th, Bonecrusher came with another furious attack and Maguila dramatically clinched in order to arrive at the end.

Any neutral observer would await a wide decision (say 98-91) for Smith. This was the criterium of one of the judges, Brazilian Alexandre Dib (he could be qualified as the only judge of the match), who gave it to Smith 100-91. The other two, Paulo Laguna and Délcio Gava (more fans than judges), had it 98-96 and 98-97 for Maguila, respectively.

Conclusion: it was not an upset but a ridiculous decision. Probably, it will be hard to convince another first-class fighter to go to Sao Paulo.

RICARDO F. SOLANA

COLOMBIA

▶BARRANQUILLA—Mogador Cinema—Flyweight Agustin "Baby" Garcia, in a comeback since being stopped in 10 rounds by Korea's Jung-Koo Chang in June, posted a 10-round decision over Cartagena's Manuel Julio.

Bantamweight Alvaro Mercado, Barranquilla, knocked out Victor Tejedor, Cartagena, in the third round.

Juan Rodriguez scored a second-round knockout over Robinson Garcia. Both bantamweights are from Barranquilla.

Bantamweight Carlos Rocha, El Reten, captured an eight-round decision over Jose Salazar, Cartagena, in a dismal scrap.

Promoter: El Pulp Promotions.

Attendance: 200 (est.).

(9-11-87)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ V.

GUYANA

▶**GEORGETOWN—National Sports Hall**—Guyana's Michael Benjamin, 135, finished strong to gain a unanimous 10-round decision victory over Venezuela's Ramon Zavala, 129.

Zavala scored well with his jab and right cross in the early rounds, but Benjamin took everything he could offer without backing off, then came on in the bout's latter stages. In the last three rounds, Benjamin came close to stopping the visitor.

Though Zavala held his own in the first half of the bout, his effort was not reflected in the scoring, which read 100-90 and 100-91 (twice).

Venezuela's Eduardo Iriarte, 125, didn't fare much better than Zavala, losing a unanimous 10-round nod to local Raul Frank, 128. Though Frank was unimpressive, he dominated the visitor, taking scores of 98-92, 98-93 and 100-90.

Giving away 26 pounds, middleweight Wayne Harris, 154, still managed to win an easy decision over heavyweight Ellis Alberto, 180, in a third 10. Harris used his jab to set up his right cross, scoring effectively with both punches to win two scores 100-91, while the third judge saw it 100-90.

Gary Richardson, 125, scored the only knockout on the card, stopping Lyndon Harris, 132, in the fifth of a scheduled six.

The opening four-rounder saw Malcom Hawker, 111, win by split decision over Malcom Darson, 112.

Promoter: M Watterton.
Physicians: H.C. Hugh & Royston Anderson.
Timekeeper: John Quall.
Referees: Green, Jardine & Fernandes.
Judges: Arno, Henry, Jardine, Fernandes, Busby, Thorne & Green.
Announcer: Allan La Rose.
(9-27-87)

WILL BOODHOO

EUROPE

FRANCE

▶**PARIS**—Middleweight Marc Ruocco scored an eight-round decision over Ian Chantler.

Welterweights Daniel Bicchierai and Amar Dahmoun drew over six rounds.

Frabrice Benichou stopped Vincente Fernandez in the first of a bantamweight bout.
(10-4-87)

▶**ECHIROLLES**—Middleweight Rene Jacquot was victorious in three rounds when the corner of Serge Meyers threw in the towel.
(10-4-87)

GERMANY

▶**STUKENBROCK—Safari Park Variety Hall**—Quality boxing at an affordable price resulted in good attendance for this card.

German light heavyweight champion Graciano Rocchigiani drew a tough assignment in Briton Tommy Taylor, but continued his winning ways in getting the verdict at the end of their eight-rounder.

Taylor took a couple of counts but fought back strongly and was always potentially a dangerous opponent, and the German could not "play light" with him.

In a supporting eight on the fine card promoted by Fritz Busch jost, Scottish visitor Sean Casey lost to Peter Koneygwichie, a featherweight who won a bronze medal at the Los Angeles Olympics. The Nigerian remained undefeated when he impressively halted the brave Scot in the third after Casey had taken a third count.

Salvador Yanez made it eight straight wins, outscoring Holland's Jimmy Bartes over six frames. Yanez, who had never been down, found the seconds being tolled over him in the opening round after getting caught by a hard right. He regained his composure and was soon back in control of the welterweight bout.

Nyazi Aytekin and Denmark-based Bozon Haule shared points after a hard, six-round middleweight match.

Marko Unverdruss scored a unanimous six-round decision over Klaus Hein in the welterweight division.

A very energetic four-round heavyweight match saw Walter Eberling and Hans Gimborn draw, each fighter taking a count during the good action.

Another heavyweight match had Klaus Heistermann ending his second pro start in a hurry as he dispatched Yugoslavia's Ibrahim Jusufi in the opening round.

Promoter: Fritz Buschjost/Helmut Daum-Vasen.
Matchmaker: Olaf Schoder.
Attendance: 1,100.
(10-3-87)

JACK TREE

WORLD RATINGS
BY THE WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION
(As of October 1, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Tyson (US)
1. Tyrell Biggs (US)
2. Frank Bruno (England)
3. Tony Tubbs (US)
4. Tony Tucker (US)
5. Jose Ribalta (US)
6. Pinklon Thomas (US)
7. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
8. Tim Witherspoon (US)
9. Adilson Rodriguez (Brazil)
10. Razor Ruddock (Canada)

JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Evander Holyfield (US)
1. Jose Burlon (Uruguay)
2. Dwight Qawi (US)
3. Henry Tillman (US)
4. Boone Pultz (US)
5. Ricky Parkey (US)
6. Ossie Ocasio (Puerto Rico)
7. Sammy Reeson (England)
8. Michael Greer (US)
9. Toufik Balbouli (France)
10. Sherman Griffin (US)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Virgil Hill (US)
1. Don LaLonde (Canada)
2. Jean-Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
3. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
4. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
5. Marvin Johnson (US)
6. Ramzi Hassan (US)
7. Alex Blanchard (Holland)
8. Tony Willis (US)
9. Eddie Davis (US)
10. Rufino Angulo (France)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Mike McCallum (Jamaica)
2. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
3. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
4. Marvin Hagler (US)
5. Iran Barkley (US)
6. Michael Olajide (Canada)
7. Michael Nunn (US)
8. Robbie Sims (US)
9. Frank Tate (US)
10. Darnell Knox (US)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
2. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
3. John Mugabi (Uganda)
4. Buster Drayton (US)
5. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)
6. Donald Curry (US)
7. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
8. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
9. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
10. Milton McCrory (US)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Marlon Starling (US)
1. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
2. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
3. Mark Breland (US)
4. Maurice Blocker (US)
5. Tyrone Trice (US)
6. Fujio Ozaki (Japan)
7. Jorge Vaca (Mexico)
8. Danny Garcia (Puerto Rico)
9. Rollin Williams (US)
10. Tommy Ayers (US)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Juan Martin Coggi (Argentina)
1. Frankie Warren (US)
2. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
3. Harold Brazier (US)
4. James McGirt (US)
5. Patrizio Oliva (Italy)
6. Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)
7. Rodolfo Gonzales (Mexico)
8. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
9. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
10. Engles Pedroza (Venezuela)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Edwin Rosario (Puerto Rico)
1. Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)
2. Pernell Whitaker (US)
3. Frankie Randall (US)
4. John Duplessis (US)
5. Meldrick Taylor (US)
6. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
7. Terrence Alli (Guyana)
8. Livingstone Bramble (US)
9. Mauricio Aceves (Mexico)
10. Chil-Sung Chun (Korea)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Brian Mitchell (South Africa)
1. Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)
2. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
3. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
4. Barry McGuigan (Ireland)
5. Harold Knight (US)
6. Lupe Suarez (US)
7. Jim McDonnell (England)
8. Salvatore Curcetti (Italy)
9. Francisco Fernandez (Panama)
10. Daniel Londas (France)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Antonio Esparragoza (Venezuela)
1. Jose Marmolejos (Panama)
2. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
3. Calvin Grove (US)
4. Valerio Nati (Italy)
5. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
6. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
7. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
8. Mauricio Stecca (Italy)
9. Steve Cruz (US)
10. Jean-Marc Renard (Belgium)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Louie Espinosa (US)
1. Bernardo Pinango (Venezuela)
2. James Pipps (US)
3. Jose Sanabria (Venezuela)
4. Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)
5. Loris Stecca (Italy)
6. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Republic)
7. Julio Gervacio (Dominican Republic)
8. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
9. Luis Mendoza (Colombia)
10. Mark Horikoshi (Japan)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Chan-Yong Park (Korea)
1. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
2. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
3. Raul Perez (Mexico)
4. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
5. Frankie Duarte (US)
6. Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)
7. Julian Solis (Puerto Rico)
8. Hurley Snead (US)
9. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
10. Lucilo Nolasco (Dominican Republic)

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Kaosai Galaxy (Thailand)
1. Kong Payakaroon (Thailand)
2. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
3. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
4. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
5. Gilberto Roman (Mexico)
6. Elly Pical (Indonesia)
7. Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)
8. Edgar Monserrat (Panama)
9. Sung-Kil Moon (Korea)
10. Thanomsak Singboebae (Thailand)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Fidel Bassa (Colombia)
1. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
2. Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Republic)
3. Duke McKenzie (England)
4. Paul Gonzales (US)
5. Orlando Canizales (US)
6. Felix Marti (Dominican Republic)
7. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
8. Kenji Matsumura (Japan)
9. Yul-Woo Lee (Korea)
10. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Myung-Woo Yuh (Korea)
1. Jose DeJesus (Puerto Rico)
2. Mario DeMarco (Argentina)
3. Tomohiro Kiyuna (Japan)
4. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
5. Wilibaldo Salazar (Mexico)
6. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
7. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
8. Leo Gamez (Venezuela)
9. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
10. Carlos Orobio (Panama)

ITALY

▶**TERRACINA**—Alain Leon Bamba decisioned Mwilambwe Tshikala in a six-round light heavyweight bout.

Ndomingiedi Lusikina won by decision over Marco Rinaldo in another six-round light heavyweight contest.

Guillermo Zuniga Mosquera scored a four-round TKO over Mwembo Kitenge in a welterweight match.

Heavyweight Gennaro Mauriello won by six-round decision over George Ajio.
(9-10-87)

▶**GUSPINI**—Roberto Franceschi, 134½, knocked out Saturnin Cabanas, 135, in the opening round.

Middleweight Eric Tatoon knocked out Paolo Tocco in three.

Welterweight Roberto Soddu won in the second round when Robert Tatoon was cut and unable to continue.
(9-12-87)

▶**QUARTU S. ELENA**—Efisio Galici, 146½, retained the WBC junior version of the welterweight championship with a 12-round decision over Ricky Stoner, 146¼.

Referee Sid Nathan scored 118-110, with judges Harold Lederman and Rolando Barrovecchio seeing it 117-109 and 118-111, respectively, all for Galici, who remained perfect at 26-0 with 20 knockouts.

Stoner was hospitalized, but his condition was considered satisfactory.

Roberto Franceschi, 133½, scored a six-round decision over Marc Delfosse, 135½.

Eric Tatoon, 161, stopped Edmondo Buttiglione, 162, in the third when the latter's corner threw in the towel.

Kalem Bou-Ali, 133¼, TKO'd Richard Fowler, 136½, in the second to raise his mark to 26-1-1 with 22 KOs.

Gianni Di Napoli, 133, TKO'd Andres Blanco, 133½, in three for his eighth knockout win in as many starts.

Romolo Casamonica, 151½, knocked out Harlen Holden, 148¾, in two to remain undefeated at 19-0-2 with 16 KOs.
(9-25-87)

▶**MERCIANISE**—Lightweight Giuseppe Perrella took a six-round decision from Kemiss Gueblaoui.
(10-3-87)

▶**SOUTH GIUSEPPE VESUVIANO**—Freddy Cruz, 128¼, took a six-round decision from Prisco Visconte, 127.

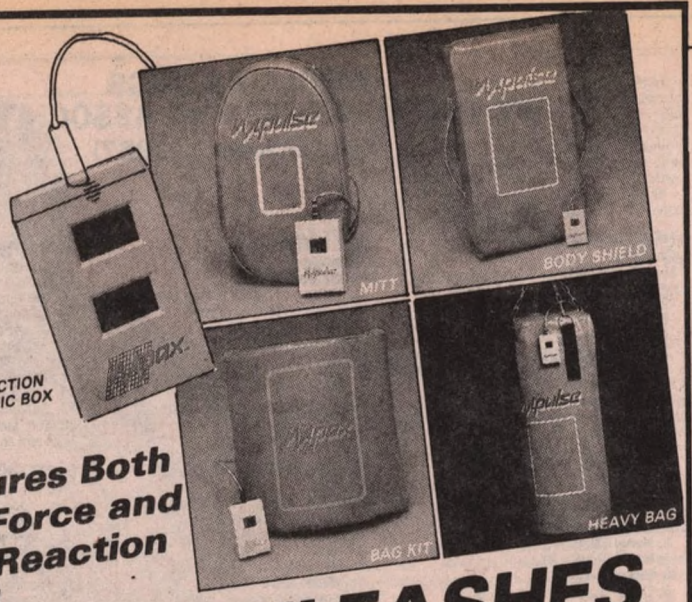
Callisto Bavaresco, 153¾, won a 12-round decision over Angelo Liquori, 152, for the Italian junior middleweight title.

Renato Biagio Zurlo stopped Maghraoui Hassen in the second round of a welterweight bout.

Francesco Dell'Auqila knocked out Kabunda Kamanga in the fourth of a middleweight contest.

Alfredo Racano, 127¼, took a six-round verdict over Prisco Visconte, 127.
(10-7-87)

▶**AOSTA**—Francesco Damiani, 228, scored a six-round TKO over Anders Ecklund, 248½, for the European heavyweight championship.



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The knockout was Damiani's 15th in his 19-0 record.

Mauricio Stecca, 128¼, upped his mark to 27-0 with 11 KOs by knocking out Silford Ashby, 129¼, in two.

Magne Havnaa, 202¾, stopped Robert Obey, 185, in two.

James Salerno, 195, scored a three-round TKO over Bobby Thomas, 198½.

Stefano Cassi improved to 11-0 with nine knockouts when Fathi Kaabi, 138½, retired in four rounds.

Roland Eriksson, 170½, knocked out Dragan Cornacic, 166½, in the first round.
(10-9-87)

SWITZERLAND

▶**BERN**—Mauro Martelli captured a 12-round decision over Erwin Heibner for the European welterweight championship.

Light heavyweight Enrico Scacchia scored an eight-round decision over Manfred Jassmann.

Rene Jacquot stopped John Van Elteren in the fifth round of a middleweight contest.

Atencio scored a fourth-round stoppage of Severino Picca when Picca was cut during their welterweight match.
(10-9-87)

UNITED KINGDOM

▶**LONDON—Royal Albert Hall**—Leicester's Tony Sibson, 159½, is back in business.

A year ago Sibson was stopped by Dennis Andries in an attempt to win the WBC light heavyweight title. Now he has returned with a decisive win over champion Brian Anderson, 159¾, to regain the British middleweight title. It was also Sibson's fourth defense of the Commonwealth middleweight crown.

It was Anderson's first defense, and he could not be faulted for a lack of gameness. But on this occasion he was outboxed, outfought and outmaneuvered by the determined Sibson and referee Sid Nathan intervened at 2:00 of Round Seven in a scheduled 12 after Anderson had been down three times. On the last occasion the referee did not bother to take up the count. A week later Anderson retired from the ring.

Sibson thus won the Lonsdale Belt outright and is gunning for any of the world titleholders who may fancy their chances against him.

Errol Christie, 165, proved he is still a force to be reckoned with in the middleweight division by stopping Mexican Rafael Corona, 157¼, referee Mike Jacobs calling a halt in the opening round of a scheduled eight after Corona had been floored by a right hand.

British cruiserweight champion Tee Jay, 196½, kayoed Alek Penarski, Alfreton, 194¼, at 1:30 of Round Six in a scheduled eight-round non-title bout. A right to the head did the trick.

Sean Murphy, 120¾, St. Albans, kayoed David Williams, Bahamas, 122, at 2:41 of the first round in a scheduled eight with a left hook to the jaw.

Nigel Benn, 164, West Ham, confirmed a previous win by stopping Winston Burnett, 168, Cardiff, referee Nathan intervening at 1:55 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos with Burnett under pressure.

Damien Denny, 147½, Belfast, outpointed Billy Cairns, 148, Glasgow, over eight twos, referee Nick White scoring it 79½-77½.

James Oyebola, 221, stopped Ian Frost, 214, Alfreton, referee White calling a halt at 2:39 of Round Two in a scheduled eight with Frost under pressure. Some thought the stoppage premature, and there were boos.

Tony Collins, 150½, stopped Willie McDonald, 149, Glasgow, referee White intervening at 1:19 of the opening round in a scheduled four twos after McDonald had been down twice.
(9-16-87)

▶**WREXHAM—Royal British Legion, Llay**—Cyril Jackson, North Wales, stopped Seamus Casey, 159, Alfreton, referee Ivor Bassett intervening in Round Five of a scheduled eight twos when Casey's left eye was closed.

Lambi Kahani, 128, Sheffield, outpointed Billy Cawley, 131, Birmingham, referee Bassett scoring it 59½-58½ after six twos.

Debutant Mike Bird, Newport, stopped Michael Snagg, 153, Liverpool, referee Bassett intervening at 1:27 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos with Snagg under pressure.

Steve Hogg, 143½, Liverpool, outpointed Robert Lloyd, 141, Rhyl, referee Bassett casting it 58½-58 after six twos. Lloyd had been inactive for over three years.
(7-31-87)

▶**STOKE—Kings Hall**—Unbeaten Noel Magee, Belfast, 174, stopped Jimmy Ellis, 173, Sheffield, referee Paul Thomas intervening at 0:45 of Round Six in a scheduled eight with Ellis under pressure. Ellis was down without a count in the first round.

Ian Bulloch, 182, Bolsover, outpointed Ray Thomas, 181, referee Thomas scoring 79-78 after eight twos.

Pat Barrett, 136, Manchester, outpointed Mike Russell, 140, Plymouth, referee Brian Arnott casting it 59-58½ after six twos which saw both visit the canvas.

Darren Hobson, 162, Leeds, didn't lose a round in outpointing Tony Behan, 168, referee Arnott scoring 60-56½ after six twos.

Peter Elliott, 161, Burton, outpointed Paul Murray, 162, Birmingham, scoreline 59½-58½ after six twos.
(8-3-87)

▶**GATESHEAD—Leisure Centre**—Glenn McCrory, 189¼, Annfield Plain, won the Commonwealth cruiserweight title by outpointing champion Chisanda Mutti, 188½, Zambia, referee Adrian Morgan of Wales scoring it a narrow 117½-117 after 12.

There was some booing, but in a close fight there always is. It was a triumph of youth, McCrory being 22, over the experience of the 30-year-old Mutti, and the youngster showed he has the qualities that matter, guts and determination.

Noel Quarless, 212, Hartlepool, kayoed American Bobby Crabtree, 204, referee Fred Potter counting him out at 2:12 of Round

One of a scheduled 10.

John Westgarth, 210, Newcastle, coming in as a late sub, beat Tony Hallett, 223, Newcastle, who retired at the end of Round Three with a broken rib.

Kevin Plant, 140, Doncaster, stopped Harry Escott, 131½, Sunderland, referee Arnold Bryson intervening at 1:34 of Round Two after Escott had been floored by a right hand which sent him to the hospital with a suspected broken jaw.

Rocky Railton, 184, Burnopfield, didn't lose a round in outpointing Mick Cordon, 205¾, Doncaster, referee Potter scoring it 60-57½ after six twos.

Paul Kennedy, 129, Consett, also didn't lose a round in outpointing Tony Foster, 134½, Hull, referee Potter casting it 60-59 after six.

Debutant Paul King, 143, Newcastle, narrowly outpointed Willie McDonald, 147, Glasgow, referee Bryson's card showing 59½-59 after six twos.

David Mawe, 141¾, was another who didn't lose a round, the Sunderland lad outpointing Dean Bramhald, 144¾, Doncaster, ref Bryson scoring 60-59 after six.

▶**LONDON—National Sporting Club**—Welshman Andy Gerrard, 216, outpointed Dave Garside, 219, Blackpool, referee Ritchie Davies scoring it 78½-78 after eight.

In the only other contest on this charity bill Levi Stephenson, 150, Hackney, drew with Geoff Calder, 152, Kidderminster, over six twos.

(9-3-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Plaza Ballroom**—Donnie Hood, 121, Glasgow, didn't lose a round in outpointing former African champion Kid Sumaila, 122, referee Billy Rafferty scoring 80-76½ after eight twos.

Dave Douglas, 150, Larkhall, beat Manny Romain, 150, Kinsington, who retired with an injured shoulder at the end of Round Three in a scheduled eight twos. Referee Arnold Bryson.

Billy Cairns, 148, Glasgow, outpointed Junaid Musah, Manchester, referee Rafferty casting it 79½-77½ after eight twos.

Tony Smith, 117½, Burnley, outpointed Gordon Shaw, 115, Glasgow, referee Rafferty's card showing 59½-58½ after six.

Michael McDermott, 143, Glasgow, didn't lose a round in outpointing Kevin Plant, 140, Doncaster, referee Bryson casting it 60-58 after six.

Craig Windsor, 133, Coatbridge, drew with Joe Duffy, Glasgow, 130, over four twos. Referee Arnold Bryson.

(9-2-87)

▶**LONDON—National Sporting Club**—Kelvin Mortimer, 145½, stopped Darren Dyer, 148¼, referee Sid Nathan intervening after Dyer had been floored by a left hook after just 48 seconds of the first round of a scheduled eight.

Mike Aubrey, 176¼, South Benfleet, outpointed Ray Thomas, 177¼, referee Paddy Sower casting 79-77½ after eight twos.

Debutant Chris Richards, 150, Nottingham, stopped Darren Bowen, 150, Wednesbury, referee Sower intervening at 54 seconds of the opening round in a scheduled six twos with Bowen under pressure. The latter then fell to the canvas in need of attention.

Dusty Miller, 149, Hackney, beat Paul Murray, 153¼, Birmingham, who was retired by his corner at the end of Round Four of a scheduled six because of a damaged right hand.

(9-7-87)

▶**LONDON—Bloomsbury Crest Hotel**—Glazz Campbell, 178, Brockley, outpointed sub Crawford Ashley, 176, Leeds, referee Larry O'Connell scoring 79-78 after eight twos.

Lloyd Morgan, 156, Highgate, stopped Winston Wray, 153½, Lewisham, referee O'Connell intervening at 0:34 of Round Four in a scheduled six twos when Wray was cut by both eyes.

Darren Hobson, 161, Leeds, beat Robert Armstong, 160, Doncaster, who retired at the end of Round Four in a scheduled six twos after being floored in Round Two and cut by the right eye.

(9-14-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Whitebread Sporting Club**—Dave Haggarty, 138¼, New Cumnock, won the vacant Scottish lightweight title by stopping Robert Harkin, 138½, Renton, referee Billy Rafferty intervening at 1:05 of Round Four when Harkin was cut by the right eye.

Bobby McDermott, 120, Glasgow, stopped Ronnie Stephenson, 124, Doncaster, referee Arnold Bryson stopping the action at 1:12 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos with Stephenson under pressure. Their previous bout was a draw.

Gordon Shaw, 115½, Glasgow, outpointed Tony Smith, Burnley, 117½, referee Bryson casting 59½-58 after six. Shaw now leads the series 2-1.

Dean Bramhald, 132, Doncaster, narrowly outpointed John Bennie, 128, Hurlford, referee Bryson's card showing 59½-59 after six.

Jim Moffat, 136½, Irvine, didn't lose a round in outpointing John Townsley, 134, Kirkcaldy, scoreline 60-59 after six.

(9-14-87)

▶**PETERBOROUGH—Moat House**—Gary DeRoux, 127¾, Peterborough, stopped Colin Lynch, 128½, Coventry, referee Sid Nathan intervening at 1:32 of Round Three in a scheduled eight twos after Lynch had been down twice.

Ian Honeywood, 134, Huntingdon, drew with Gary Maxwell, 134, Sheffield, over six twos. Referee Sid Nathan.

Eddie Collins, 150, Peterborough, outpointed Dave Kettlewell, 145½, Leeds, referee Nick White casting it 59½-58½ after six twos.

Frank Grant, 162½, Bradford, stopped Tony Lawrence, 163½, Kings Lynn, referee White calling a halt at 0:23 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos after Lawrence had been down.

(9-10-87)

▶**SOUTHEND—20th Century Sporting Club**—Jason Baxter, 169, Leicester, outpointed Winston Burnett, 168, Cardiff. Referee Roy Francis.

Noel Blair, 154, Slough, outpointed Mark Simpson, 147, Brighton, over six. Referee Tony Walker.

Debutant Ian Nelson, 204, outpointed Arezki Kerrick, 186, over six. Referee Roy Francis.

(9-8-87)

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PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NORTHERN TERRITORY

▶**MARRARA—International Indoor Sports Stadium**—In July, Steve Renwick defended his Australian and Australasian junior middleweight titles against local John Siriotis. After a terrific fight, Siriotis was wrongly announced as the winner.

The evening was heartbreaking for Siriotis in that he promoted his own loss and lost money, besides.

There was a return bout signed, but Renwick blew his titles in a big upset to Steve Peel. Peel sportingly relinquished his Australasian title, so Renwick and Siriotis could meet again for the now-vacant crown.

This time, Siriotis did not promote, instead letting a group of businessmen headed by Larry Wilson take over. They told Siriotis to quit work for eight weeks just to train and paid him $500 a week to do so.

The rematch turned out to be as good as their first meeting. In fact, rounds nine and 10 were the two most gut-gripping rounds seen in Australia in some three years. In those rounds, Siriotis had Renwick almost gone. Siriotis also won the 11th, with the 12th being too close to call.

Again, Renwick collected the decision. In the first meeting, I, as a judge, had scored for Renwick by one point. This time, I carded for Siriotis by one point (116-115), but the other two judges saw Renwick the winner.

Renwick thus collected the Australasian title, enabling him to meet Peel with a title in each corner. But Renwick, a great sportsman, announced, "John can fight Peel for the Australian title. I will meet the winner. There will be a title in each corner then."

It was expected Peel would defend in a few weeks. But he suffered a broken jaw when reportedly set upon by three louts, so Siriotis will have to wait until Peel is ready.

Siriotis weighed 152 to Renwick's 152¼.

In the main prelim over 10 rounds, Rodney Brown, 145½, Sydney, outpointed local Mick Doherty, 141¼, in a good, close fight that had one judge give the verdict to Doherty.

Shane Dalton, 148¾, scored a split win over Laurie Raymond, 154½, in a battle of locals over eight rounds. It was a very good fight that saw ringsiders provide a large shower of notes and coins.

Russell Finn of Queensland halted Barry Bell in Round Four of a scheduled six. Finn scaled 124¾, Bell 133¼. Bell, formerly from Sydney but now living in NT, was having his first fight in seven years. He was doing all right but ran into a stunner.

Ronald Waldock, 163¼, a local southpaw, was paired with an opponent who failed to arrive, so Peter Bell, brother of Barry, whom he had been training, stepped into the breach. Bell, 158¾, had two fights in 1976, but none since, and lost the decision.

The promotion went very well as the almost-packed stadium (only 70 vacant seats) provided a profit.

Referee; Noel Ross.
(9-18-87)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

▶**PERTH—Italian Club**—Australian junior lightweight champion Tony Miller, 125¾, easily outpointed Joe Hiyas, 125¾, Philippines, over 10 rounds.

Hiyas, who holds the WBC junior super bantamweight title, was way behind, the scoring going 100-92 (twice) and 98-93.

The result is an indication of how good Jeff Fenech is. Fenech, the WBC super bantamweight champion, this year won the Australian featherweight title from Miller, thrashing him all the way.

In another 10-rounder, Chad Hill, 161, outpointed Ken Dixon, 172, to defend his WA state light heavyweight title. The scores read 97-97, 97-93 and 98-94.

New Zealander Rah Puki, 143¼, outpointed Victorian Paul Delosa, 139¾, over 10 rounds.

Shane Reilly, 132½, outpointed Tony Marretta, 132½, over 10 rounds.

Promoter: Ron Skinner.
Referee: Bill Ivory.
Attendance: 800.
(9-24-87)

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**CRONULLA—Labor & Workingmen's Club**—Jeff "Hit Man" Harding, 170¾, had another easy victory, this time against Fijian southpaw Luka Joel, 174¼, who lives in New Zealand.

After a first round of good action, Harding decked Joel, who fought back but was soon scattered. Referee John Wright rescued him at 1:49.

The contest was billed for the vacant Australasian light heavyweight title, a title which, when vacant, is contested between an Australian and a New Zealander. But the contestants should be national champions. Guy Waters is the Australian champion, and Joel was stopped in a six-rounder in New Zealand some four weeks before meeting Harding, so we could not seriously recognize this bout as an Australasian title tilt.

Peter Warren, 123½, outpointed Neil Garland, 121¼, over eight good rounds. The southpaw Warren is a New Zealander who now lives in Queensland.

Paul Toweel, one of our best middleweights, was to have met an import from New Zealand, but the import withdrew so Paul went in with John Taupau, 158¾, who is below his class. Lowered to six rounds instead of the original 10, the bout went comfortably to Toweel, 161.

Toweel's younger brother, Vic, 165¼, halted Joe Nabuka, 158¾, Fiji, in Round Three of a scheduled four that was the pro debut for each. Toweel, the nephew of former world bantamweight champion Vic Toweel, appeared promising.

Promoter: Ray Dunbar.
(9-25-87)

▶**BLACKTOWN—RSL Club**—Jeff Malcolm made a comeback to run up his 99th contest. Formerly a junior welterweight, Malcolm scaled 154 as he displayed still-sharp reflexes in easily outpointing fellow southpaw Anthony Naidu, 154, over eight rounds.

In another eight-rounder, Hector Cheetham, 132¼, outpointed comebacking Kirk Blair, 137¾, for a clear win.

Tommy Roberts, another trying a comeback, failed in a six-rounder with Dino Billinghurst, who weighed 157¾ to Roberts' 163. Roberts was down three times in Round Two for the automatic stoppage by referee John Wright.

Al Hallett, 147¾, outpointed Neil Higgins, 145½, over four.

Newcomer Louis Armenis, 136¾, scored a three-round decision over newcomer The Maltese Falcon, 141. Wonder what Humphrey Bogart would say about that? Maybe we should encourage Sparrow Freeman to make a comeback. That would make two birds in the aviary. One could knock the other off his perch!

Promoters: John McColl & Bill Laws.
(10-9-87)

VICTORIA

▶**MELBOURNE—Town Hall**—Australian heavyweight champion Dean Waters relinquished his OPBF diadem recently. The OPBF sanctioned a match between two Aussies, Kevin Barry and Rudy Darno, for the vacant title.

Two Aussies? Yes, by long residence, but Barry was born in Ireland, Darno in Germany.

Barry, 229¼, won a 12-round decision with scores of 115-111 (twice) and 115-112. Darno broke his hand midway through.

Prospect Craig Trotter, 148¾, stopped Matthew Smith, 151, in the eighth and final round.

Arzan Basic, 233, stopped Stefan Dolato, 220½, referee Jim Boland rescuing the loser at 2:28 of the third of a scheduled six.

Rick Kulu, 176¼, stopped Rod Carr, 174¼, in the first of a scheduled four after Carr had been down twice.

Angelo Cacciotti, 121¼, outpointed Kevin Johnson, 122¼, over four.

Promoter: Fan Fights/Mike Ryan.
Referees: Johnny Wheeler & Jim Boland.
(10-2-87)

QUEENSLAND

▶**MANSFIELD—Tavern**—Ronald Doo, 150, stopped Jamie Tracey, 154, for the vacant Queensland state junior middleweight title.

Doo was in control all the way. When he got right on top in Round Six, referee Alan Moore stopped the fight.

Bruce Crowe, 140, made a comeback to KO Jay Donovan, 144, in the fourth of a scheduled eight.

In six rounds, Dean Amiott, 154, drew with Peter Mastran, 149. Mastran used to box as Mastroianni. The bout, scored even by two judges, was very good and drew a large shower of money from ringsiders.

James Dunleavy, 158, stopped Terry Brown, 155, in the first of a scheduled four.

Danny Doyle, 145, stopped Rocky Blundell, 143, in the fourth and final session.

A scheduled three saw Chris Elridge, 153, stop Domenico Illuzzi, 150, in the first.

Flash Gordon, 130, scored a three-round decision over John Thiery, 132.

Paul Gleeson, 166, outpointed Stan Wilshire, 170, over three.

Promoter: Jimmy Young.
Attendance: 800 (est.).
(9-28-87)

NOTES: Russell Sands, former welterweight champion of Australia, was killed in a car accident near Wauchops in northern New South Wales October 8. The car hit a pole and Russell, son of Alfie Sands and nephew of the great Dave Sands, was incinerated along with a friend. The 23-year-old Sands left two daughters and a wife, who was due to give birth two weeks after the accident.

The real family name is Ritchie. There were six fighting brothers some years ago, all using the name Sands, and I wrote a book about the family 22 years ago called "The Fighting Sands." Dave was the best, but died in a truck accident at age 26. He held five titles at the time of his death. His younger brother Russell, uncle of the recently deceased, was Australian featherweight champ at 17. Alfie Sands won a version of the Australian middleweight title. George and Clem were state champions and Ritchie was right up there as a national contender.

In the last two years, seven family members have died. Of the six fighting brothers, only the eldest, Clem, remains. A sister died and her son Russell, not to be confused with her brother Russell or the latest Russell, was killed by a car when leaving a football game. Young Russell was in an accident just after losing his Australian welter title to Brian Janssen in April, 1985. He had his leg badly broken, but an iron peg was inserted and he made a comeback in June, 1987. He had three fights, winning them all, two by KO.

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NEW ZEALAND

▶**AUCKLAND—Kingsgate Convention Centre**—Former New Zealand light heavyweight champion Lance Reville's macho tactics proved his undoing when opposing younger and heavier August Tanuvasa (223½) in their scheduled 12-rounder for the vacant NZ heavyweight title. Instead of utilizing his reach and experienced ringcraft, Revill (199) chose to roughly tussle it out in the opening two rounds and Tanuvasa took the third with looping hooks to the head. At times in the following two stanzas, Revill got his boxing together but all too frequently chose to brawl with his opponent. Tanuvasa got well on top in the sixth, heavy punches leaving Revill battered and bloody-faced. Referee Eddie Manuela overruled the ringside doctor's opinion that Revill could carry on and before the bell for the seventh he raised Tanuvasa's arm aloft as victor.

The co-main event was another scheduled 12-rounder for the vacant New Zealand middleweight championship between crowd-pleasers Craig Parsons (159) and Piilua Taito (160). Rounds one and two saw decisive box-punching to head and body, both being stunned by fierce blows. In the third, they battled it out but with Taito's punches dazing his opponent badly enough to warrant referee Johnny Hanks extolling a compulsory standing eight count. At the command box-on, Taito resumed where previously interrupted and as Parsons sagged into the ropes the referee jumped between them and declared Taito TKO victor at one minute 59 seconds.

In a final eliminator to find the next challenger for the NZ welterweight title, Romeo Afa (146) fought gamely against Alberto Ma Chong (150¼) in a scientific, hard-hitting match. After holding his own in the opening two sessions, Afa's left eye started to swell and from the third Ma Chong winged away. A head attack in the fifth sent Afa to the canvas for a compulsory eight count, but on regaining his feet, Afa, his damaged eye now a mere slit, conceded victory at one minute 55 seconds into the round and referee Ali Afakasi raised Ma Chong's arm.

Lindsay Christiansen (220) felled Little Joe Kai (186) with a right to the jaw and referee Eddie Manuela stopped the fight at 25 seconds of Round One.

In a hard-hitting encounter, Sai Gasio (175¼) won a popular, unanimous, close points decision over Osofua Patu (177) over six rounds. Referee Hanks.

Toss Lelei (166¼) took a round to find the range against tall southpaw Marklie Rogoi (163¾) and then, with his heavier punching and aggressiveness, won another popular unanimous six-rounds points decision. Referee Manuela.

Tony Renata (165½) opposed Cyclone Kenny (171) in a four-rounder. Renata kept busy with better punch variety to earn himself a popular unanimous points verdict. Referee Hanks.

Promoter: Arthur Collins.

Attendance: 2,500.

(9-28-87)

JOHNNY HANKS

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

▶**EAST LONDON**—Ngaba Govuza was outstanding in capturing the Cape junior flyweight title from Ndoda Mayende in one of the best fights seen here in years.

The two fought bitterly over 10 hard rounds with Govuza crowned champion by unanimous decision.

In another Cape title fight, Mbulelo Mxokiswa caused an upset when he stopped Philip Mampara in the sixth round of a scheduled 10 to win the Cape middleweight title.

Elijah Cele came from behind to stop Victor Fata in the sixth round of a scheduled eight at the lightweight limit.

(7-26-87)

▶**ELDORADO PARK**—Philemon Ayesu from Malawi got up from a third-round knockdown to win a split decision over Patrick Mpamba in an exciting 10-round welterweight clash.

After a slow start, the fight turned into a humdinger, with both showing great courage.

The former South African junior flyweight champion, Baby Jake Matlala, was too strong for plucky Kirk Morris and won a clear-cut, eight-round decision.

(8-2-87)

▶**MEDUNSA**—Simon Bekker retained his South African junior lightweight title in his first defense when he stopped Mpesekaya Mbaduli in the sixth of their scheduled 12-rounder.

A crowd of about 400 saw Bekker finish in sensational style after a rocky patch in rounds four and five. He caught Mbaduli with a short, chopping right to the jaw and dropped him flat on his back. The challenger struggled up on unsteady legs at the count of eight, but referee Len Hunt counted him out and waved the fight over as Mbaduli was in no condition to continue.

Bekker is 7-1, all wins coming by knockout.

(8-9-87)

▶**DURBAN**—Alson Nkosi was stopped in the seventh round by Johan Gumede in a junior middleweight contest.

In an untidy six-rounder, lightweight Tollie Enslin won a close

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WORLD RATINGS BY THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL (As of September, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Tyson (US)
1. Tyrell Biggs (US)
2. Pinklon Thomas (US)
3. Tony Tucker (US)
4. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
5. Michael Spinks (US)
6. Frank Bruno (England)
7. Jose Ribalta (US)
8. Adilson Rodrigues (Brazil)
9. Carl Williams (US)
10. Joe Bugner (Australia)
11. James Smith (US)
12. Razor Ruddock (Canada)
13. Larry Alexander (US)
14. Bert Cooper (US)
15. Tony Tubbs (US)
16. Renaldo Snipes (US)
17. Greg Page (US)
18. Anders Eklund (Denmark)
19. Tim Witherspoon (US)
20. James Broad (US)
21. Mike Evans (US)
22. James Douglas (US)
23. Marvis Frazier (US)
24. Horace Notice (England)
25. Mike Weaver (US)
26. Mike Williams (US)
27. Orlin Norris (US)
28. Gary Mason (England)
29. Jesse Ferguson (US)
30. Henry Tillman (US)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Carlos DeLeon (Puerto Rico)
1. Jose Maria Flores (Uruguay)
2. Dwight Qawi (US)
3. Michael Greer (US)
4. Taoufik Balbouli (Mauritania)
5. Rickey Parkey (US)
6. Lee Roy Murphy (US)
7. Sammy Reeson (England)
8. Alfonzo Ratliff (US)
9. Glenn McCrory (England)
10. Daniel Netto (Argentina)
11. Elijah Tillery (US)
12. Angelo Rottoli (Italy)
13. Tony Fulilangi (Tonga)
14. Patrick Lamamba (Uganda)
15. David Russell (Australia)
16. Anthony Witherspoon (US)
17. Anthony Davis (US)
18. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
19. Arthel Lawhorne (US)
20. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
21. Tee Jay (Ghana)
22. Ralph Rocchigiane (Germany)
23. Jorge Dascola (Argentina)
24. Olian Alexander (US)
25. Young Haumoma (Tonga)
26. Steve Marmino (US)
27. Angelo Musone (Italy)
28. Roy Smith (England)
29. Curtis Isaac (US)
30. Jesse Shelby (US)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Vacant
1. Eddie Davis (US)
2. Don LaLonde (Canada)
3. Alex Blanchard (Holland)
4. Ramzi Hassan (US)
5. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
6. Charles Williams (US)
7. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
8. Jean Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
9. Tony Willis (US)
10. Dennis Andries (England)
11. Willie Edwards (US)
12. Nestor Giovannini (Argentina)
13. Jeff Lampkin (US)
14. Jim MacDonald (US)
15. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)
16. Mark Kaylor (England)
17. Richard Caramonolis (France)
18. Mustafa Hamsho (US)
19. Chris Reid (US)
20. Graciano Rocchigiane (Germany)
21. Uriah Grant (US)
22. Kelvin Kelly (US)
23. Tarmo Uusivarta (Finland)
24. Slobodan Kacar (Yugoslavia)
25. Willie Featherstone (Canada)
26. Tom Collins (England)
27. Mark Holmes (US)
28. Jorge Salgado (Argentina)
29. Rufino Angulo (France)
30. Jeff Thompson (US)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Thomas Hearns (US)
2. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
3. Marvin Hagler (US)
4. Michael Olajide (Canada)
5. Michael Nunn (US)
6. Iran Barkley (US)
7. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
8. Herol Graham (England)
9. Darnell Knox (US)
10. Roberto Duran (Panama)
11. Frank Tate (US)
12. Robbie Sims (US)
13. Lindell Holmes (US)
14. Troy Darrell (Bermuda)
15. Don Lee (US)
16. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
17. Juan Carlos Giminez (Paraguay)
18. James Kinchen (US)
19. Mark Janssen (Australia)
20. Frank Winterstein (France)
21. Dario Matteoni (Argentina)
22. Tony Thornton (US)
23. Tony Sibson (England)
24. Charlie Boston (US)
25. Doug DeWitt (US)
26. Larry Musgrove (US)
27. Errol Christie (England)
28. Kevin Watts (US)
29. Mark McPherson (US)
30. Rickey Stackhouse (US)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lupe Aquino (Mexico)
1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
3. Duane Thomas (US)
4. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
5. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)
6. John Munduga (Uganda)
7. Darrin Van Horn (US)
8. Don Curry (US)
9. Milton McCrory (US)
10. Robert Hines (US)
11. Hugo Marinangeli (Argentina)
12. Buster Drayton (US)
13. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
14. Chris Pyatt (England)
15. Ramon Ramos (Argentina)
16. David Braxton (US)
17. John Jackson (US)
18. Jun-Sok Hwang (Korea)
19. Troy Waters (Australia)
20. Steve Little (US)
21. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
22. Davey Moore (US)
23. Elio Diaz (Venezuela)
24. Giovanni De Marco (Italy)
25. Kenny Snow (US)
26. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
27. Jae-Hyung Yuh (Korea)
28. Nebie Emile (Ivory Coast)
29. Herman Cavesuela (US)
30. Danny Garcia (Puerto Rico)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
1. Yun-Kil Chung (Korea)
2. Maurice Blocker (US)
3. Tomas Molinares (Colombia)
4. Jorge Vaca (Mexico)
5. Mark Breland (US)
6. Tommy Ayers (US)
7. Rollin Williams (US)
8. Horace Shufford (US)
9. Tyrone Trice (US)
10. Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)
11. Kirkland Laing (Great Britain)
12. Hector Hugo Vilte (Argentina)
13. Young Dick Tiger (Nigeria)
14. Hugh Kearney (US)
15. Sylvester Mittee (England)
16. Helio Santana (Brazil)
17. Marcelo Di Croce (Argentina)
18. Sung-Ho Chang (Korea)
19. Adolfo Arce Rossi (Argentina)
20. Gene Hatcher (US)
21. Fujio Ozaki (Japan)
22. Shawn O'Sullivan (Canada)
23. Wilf Gentzen (Australia)
24. Luis Santana (US)
25. Mauricio Rodriguez (US)
26. Mauro Martelli (Switzerland)
27. Brian Janssen (Australia)
28. Anthony Pearson (US)
29. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
30. Diomedes Colome (Dominican Republic)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
1. Frankie Warren (US)
2. James (Buddy) McGirt (US)
3. Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)
4. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
5. Harold Brazier (US)
6. Rodolfo Gonzalez (Mexico)
7. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
8. Ronnie Shields (US)
9. Meldrick Taylor (US)
10. Roger Mayweather (US)
11. Hector Camacho (Puerto Rico)
12. Alberto M. Cortes (Argentina)
13. Cassius Clay Horne (US)
14. Jean-Baptiste Mendy (Senegal)
15. John Meekins (US)
16. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
17. John Montes (US)
18. Joe Manley (US)
19. Howard Davis, Jr. (US)
20. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
21. Eung-Sik Kim (Korea)
22. Gary Hinton (US)
23. Tyrone Crawley (US)
24. Allan Allegria (Philippines)
25. Thomas Nkalankete (France)
26. Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)
27. Vincent Releford (US)
28. Maurizio Ronzoni (Italy)
29. Tony Laing (England)
30. Hong-Yu Lim (Korea)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)
1. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Uganda)
2. Frankie Randall (US)
3. Terrence Alli (US)
4. Pernell Whitaker (US)
5. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
6. Amancio Castro (Colombia)
7. John Duplessis (US)
8. Greg Haugen (US)
9. Chil-Sung Chun (Korea)
10. Jimmy Paul (US)
11. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
12. Sakad Petchyindee (Thailand)
13. Cubanito Perez (US)
14. Livingstone Bramble (US)
15. Rene Weller (Germany)
16. Timmy Burgess (US)
17. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
18. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
19. Darryl Tyson (US)
20. Raul Bianco (Argentina)

21. Mauricio Aceves (Mexico)
22. Tony Willis (Great Britain)
23. Luis Soto (Argentina)
24. Freddie Pendleton (US)
25. Vernon Buchanan (US)
26. Shelton Le Blanc (US)
27. Jesus Romero (Argentina)
28. Fidel Rivera (Argentina)
29. Mo Hussein (England)
30. Elvis Perez (Dominican Republic)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)
1. Lester Ellis (Australia)
2. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
3. Juan LaPorte (Puerto Rico)
4. Harold Knight (US)
5. Johnny de la Rosa (Dominican Republic)
6. Francisco Tomas Da Cruz (Brazil)
7. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
8. Roger Arevala (Mexico)
9. Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)
10. Tony Pep (Canada)
11. Kamel Bou Ali (Tunisia)
12. Jim McDonnell (England)
13. Salvatore Curcetti (Italy)
14. Julio Miranda (Argentina)
15. Tyrone Jackson (US)
16. Kenny Baysmore (US)
17. Pascual Aranda (US)
18. Dwight Pratchett (US)
19. Geron Porras (Philippines)
20. Dennis Cruz (Puerto Rico)
21. John Sichula (Zambia)
22. Eduardo Galan (Argentina)
23. Jackie Beard (US)
24. Nagib Daho (Great Britain)
25. Chor Haphalang (Thailand)
26. Sam Akromah (Ghana)
27. Pedro Gutierrez (Argentina)
28. Tony Lopez (US)
29. Hengky Gun (Indonesia)
30. Eleodoro Urbina (Peru)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)
1. Calvin Grove (US)
2. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
3. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
4. George Navarro (US)
5. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
6. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
7. Lupe Suarez (US)
8. Jose Marmolejo (Panama)
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27. Mario Roberto Rodriguez (Mexico)
28. Mitsuru Sugiya (Japan)
29. Irving Mitchell (US)
30. Rafael Zuniga (Colombia)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Jeff Fenech (Australia)
1. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
2. Carlos Zarate (Mexico)
3. Harold Petty (US)
4. Valerio Natti (Italy)
5. Loris Stecca (Italy)
6. Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)
7. Jesse Benavides (US)
8. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
9. Jose Sanabria (Venezuela)
10. James Pipps (US)
11. Pedro Decima (Argentina)
12. Steve McCrory (US)
13. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Republic)
14. Hi-Yun Chung (Korea)
15. Aaron Lopez (US)
16. Jesus Salud (Hawaii)
17. Darryl Thigpen (US)
18. Mike Ayala (US)
19. Prayoonsak Muangsurin (Thailand)
20. Julio Gervasio (Dominican Republic)
21. Mark Horikoshi (Japan)
22. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
23. Enrique Sanchez (Dominican Republic)
24. Manuel Vilchez (Venezuela)
25. Lion Ari (Philippines)
26. Downmai Sithkodom (Thailand)
27. Nurhuda (Indonesia)
28. Mario Gomez (Mexico)
29. Robert Shannon (US)
30. Pare Mamadou (Ivory Coast)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Miguel Lora (Colombia)
1. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
2. Alberto Davila (US)
3. Frankie Duarte (US)
4. Hurley Snead (US)
5. Wilfredo Vazquez (Puerto Rico)
6. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
7. Raul Perez (Mexico)
8. Ernie Cataluna (Philippines)
9. Alberto Martinez (Mexico)
10. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
11. Gaby Canizales (US)
12. Louis Gomis (France)
13. Naoto Takahashi (Japan)
14. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
15. Schoolboy Ramirez (Mexico)
16. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
17. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
18. Juan Jose Estrada (Mexico)
19. Luisito Espinoza (Philippines)
20. Pepillo Valdez (Mexico)
21. Greg Richardson (US)
22. Fernando Beltran (Mexico)
23. Israel Contreras (Venezuela)
24. Changuito Carmona (Mexico)
25. Doo-Bok Cha (Korea)
26. Ki-Youl Kang (Korea)
27. Yung-Duk Park (Korea)
28. Ciro de Leva (Italy)
29. Luis Mendoza (Colombia)
30. Jimmy Navarro (US)

SUPER FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Sugar Baby Rojas (Colombia)
1. Gilberto Roman (Mexico)
2. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
3. Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)
4. Juan Polo Perez (Colombia)
5. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
6. Kongtoranee Payakaroon (Thailand)
7. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
8. Michael Parris (Guyana)
9. Gustavo Ballas (Argentina)
10. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
11. Yoshiyuki Uchida (Japan)
12. Jimmy Fernandez (Mexico)
13. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
14. Chun Huh (Korea)
15. Ruben Condori (Argentina)
16. Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)
17. Sung-Kil Moon (Korea)
18. Hi-Sup Chin (Korea)
19. Edgar Monseratt (Panama)
20. Eudo Bermudez (Colombia)
21. Thierry Jacob (France)
22. Antoine Montero (France)
23. Soon-Chun Kwong (Korea)
24. Elvis Alvarez (Colombia)
25. Dong-Choon Lee (Korea)
26. Thanomsak Sithbaobay (Thailand)
27. Dae-Yong Park (Korea)
28. Ernesto Ford (Panama)
29. Wongso Indrajit (Indonesia)
30. Tatratum Eakchatchaing (Thailand)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)
1. Duke McKenzie (Great Britain)
2. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
3. Orlando Canizales (US)
4. Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Republic)
5. Rafael Cabbrera (Dominican Republic)
6. Yul-Woo Lee (Korea)
7. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
8. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)
9. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)
10. Hideaki Kamishiro (Japan)
11. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
12. Paul Gonzales (US)
13. Willie Salazar (Mexico)
14. Ray Medel (US)
15. Rolando Bohol (Philippines)
16. Dave McAuley (England)
17. Soon-Joon Kang (Korea)
18. Nana Konadu (Ghana)
19. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
20. Dodie Penalosa (Philippines)
21. Kenji Matsumura (Japan)
22. Juan Herrera (Mexico)
23. Bi-Won Chung (Korea)
24. Angel Rosario (Puerto Rico)
25. Fernando Varguez (Mexico)
26. Franco Cherchi (Italy)
27. Claudemir Dias (Brazil)
29. Mike Phelps (US)
30. Manuel Sallago (Venezuela)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)
1. German Torres (Mexico)
2. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
3. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
4. Tomohiro Kiuna (Japan)
5. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
6. Agustin Garcia (Colombia)
7. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
8. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
9. Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)
10. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
11. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
12. Jose de Jesus (Puerto Rico)
13. Pretty Boy Lucas (Philippines)
14. Mario Demarco (Argentina)
15. Seiji Tomari (Japan)
16. Tony de Luca (US)
17. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
18. Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)
19. Ha-Sik Lim (Korea)
20. Little Baguio (Philippines)
21. Sonny Vidal (Philippines)
22. Tacy Macalos (Philippines)
23. Jose Luis Zepeda (Mexico)
24. Memo Flores (Mexico)
25. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
26. Gilberto Sosa (Mexico)
27. Putt Ohyuthnakorn (Thailand)
28. Yasutaka Sakurai (Japan)
29. Hector Patri (Argentina)
30. Leo Gamez (Venezuela)

decision over Oscar Phangwe.
(8-10-87)

▶**CAPE TOWN**—After a long absence, big-time boxing returned to the Good Hope Centre and a crowd of 4,000 saw Nika Khumalo retain his South African lightweight title with a unanimous points decision over 12 rounds against Aladin Stevens.

Khumalo, who drew with Stevens in their previous fight, left no doubt this time as he pressed Stevens throughout with a two-handed attack.

Prince Tukane was too experienced for Jim Murray and put him down for the full count in Round Three of a scheduled 10-round light heavyweight bout.

Chris Whiteboy retained his Cape welterweight title with a clear-cut 10-round decision over Mark Brawood.
(8-23-87)

▶**JOHANNESBURG**—The South African heavyweight champion Pierre Coetzer scored a convincing 10-round points win over the former European heavyweight champion Alfredo Evangelista.

Evangelista was only intent on survival and did not win a round as indicated by the judges' scorecards, which read 100-91, 100-92 and 100-91.

Coetzer entered the ring in superb physical condition but was reluctant to use his right hand and relied on his powerful left jab to pile up points.

Siza Makhatini stopped American Bobby Thomas in the fifth round of their scheduled eight. This was a mauling affair, the end coming with Thomas receiving a pounding on the ropes.

The third international bout saw Bennie Knoetze systematically cut down giant American Sammy Scaff before the referee intervened at the beginning of the sixth round. Scaff had no answer to the long southpaw lefts thrown by Knoetze and was cut and bleeding over both eyes at the end.
(8-30-87)

RON JACKSON

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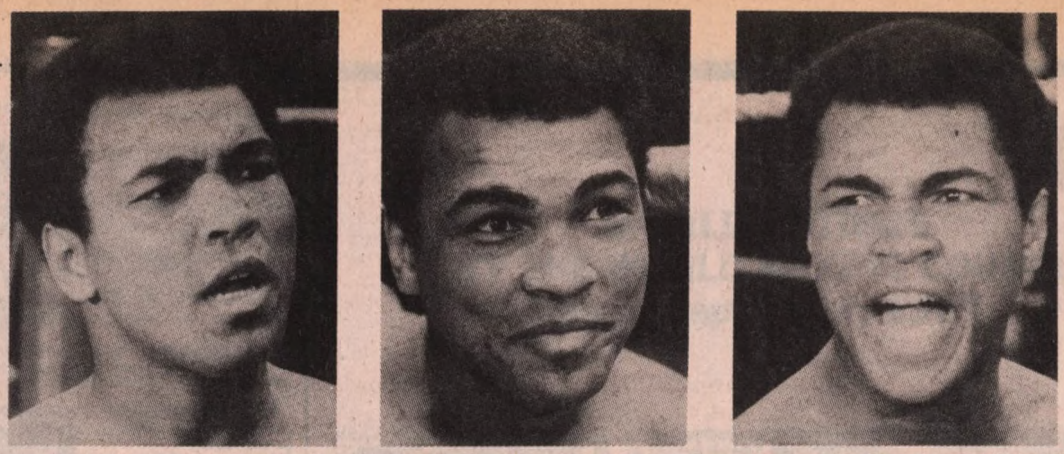

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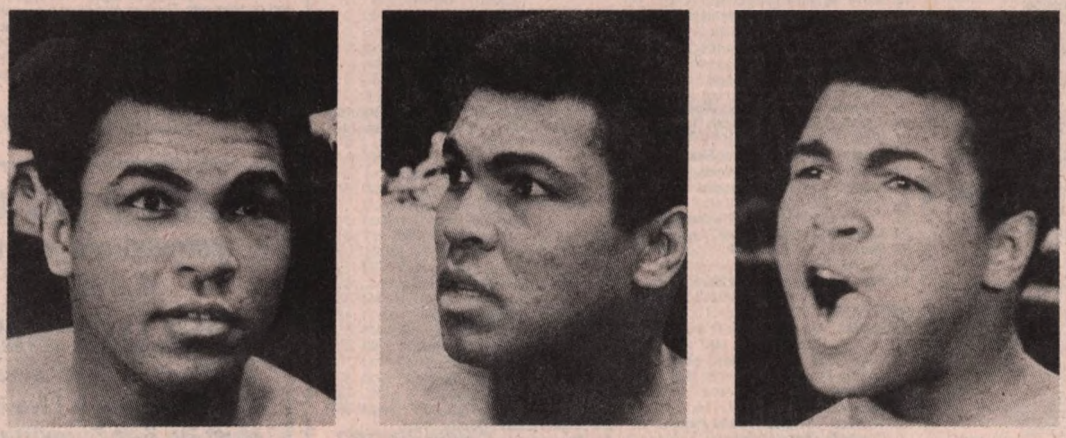

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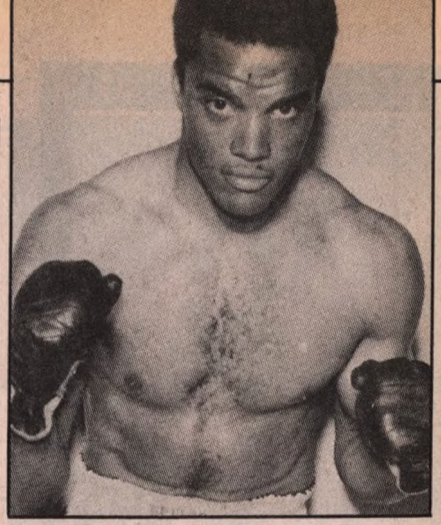
ASK THE ANSWERMAN

By PHILL MARDER

This month the "Answerman" gives Swedish reader Christer Franzen the details of former heavyweight contender Eddie Machen's career.



Q: Whatever happened to Eddie Machen after the defeat against Ingemar Johansson in 1958? What was his record after this fight?

CHRISTER FRANZEN
Stockholm, Sweden

A: *Quite a lot happened to Eddie Machen after his one-round knockout loss to Ingo, which propelled Johansson into his three-fight series with Floyd Patterson. The Redding, California heavyweight fought on until 1966 when, at the age of 34, he was stopped in 10 rounds by the up-and-coming Joe Frazier. At the time of his loss to Johansson, Machen was unbeaten at 24-0-1 with 16 knockouts, the only blemish on his mark being a 12-round draw with top contender Zora Folley five months before the Johansson disaster. After losing to the Swede, Machen went 26-8-2 with 13 knockouts, most of his bouts being against top contenders. From 1959 to 1966 his list of victims included Willi Besmanoff (W10), Billy Hunter (KO9), Alex Miteff (W10), Alonzo Johnson (W10, KO9), Wayne Bethea (W10), Mike DeJohn (W10, KO9), Brian London (KO5), Doug Jones (W10), Roger Rischer (W10) and Jerry Quarry (W10). During that same time period he lost to several well-known names, including Folley (L12), Sonny Liston (L12), Harold Johnson (L10), Floyd Patterson (L12), Sonny Liston (L12), Harold Johnson (L10), Floyd Patterson (L12 in Stockholm), Ernie Terrell (L15 for the WBA heavyweight title), Karl Mildenberger (L10) and Manuel Ramos (L10). He also drew with Cleveland Williams in 10. All in all, Machen had quite a career.*

Q: Where can I write Sugar Ray Leonard and whatever happened to Jeff Chandler?

STEVE RUSICH
Fontana, CA

A: *Sugar Ray Leonard can be reached through Mike Trainer at 1010 Bonifont St., Silver Springs, Maryland, 20910. Jeff Chandler is apparently enjoying retirement in Philadelphia. "Joltin' Jeff" still looks capable of making 118 pounds.*

Q: Could you give me some information on Henry Chmielewski, who fought Jake LaMotta November 6, 1942, in Boston, Massachusetts?

SCOTT CHMIELEWSKI
Breslan, Ontario, Canada

A: *Henry was born January 18, 1916, in Lodz, Poland. He weighed 162 pounds and stood 5-8. Chmielewski lost a 10-round decision to LaMotta, then joined the United States Army. From 1938 until 1943, Chmielewski won 33 times, lost 11, with 12 knockouts. He won his first 14 bouts before dropping a 10-round decision to Lou Brouillard in Worcester, Massachusetts. Henry bounced back to win six of his next seven, the loss being a 10-round decision to Howell King in Worcester. Henry was then knocked out in the first round by Ernie Vigh in New York City and never regained his previous form. After winning his next three starts, Henry was knocked out five straight times and seven times in his next nine starts, two of the losses coming to Coley Welch, who later stopped him again.*

Q: Can you tell me Lou Duva's fighters? I have very seldom seen any of his fighters lose on TV.

FRANK DONOBEDIAN
Fresno, CA

A: *The Duvas handle Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Evander Holyfield, Rocky Lockridge, John John Molina, Vinny Pazienza, Meldrick Taylor, Frankie Warren, Pernell Whitaker and Mike McCallum and do promotion only for Dwight Muhammad Qawi and Henry Tillman.*

Q: Can you give me any information on "old-timers" Mike O'Dowd, Jock Malone and Jimmy Walsh?

MICHAEL KELLY
Uniontown, PA

A: *Mike O'Dowd, "The St. Paul Cyclone," was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1895. A middleweight standing 5-9, O'Dowd fought from 1913 to 1923, winning the world middleweight crown with a six-round knockout of Al McCoy in 1917. He lost the crown to Johnny Wilson in 1920, but disputed the verdict. They fought again the next year, Wilson again winning by decision, this time over 15 rounds. O'Dowd lost a try for the Ohio world middleweight crown in 1922, losing a 12-round verdict to William Bryan Downey in 1944, but won the New York world middleweight title later that same year when Dave Rosenberg was disqualified in the eighth round. He lost that claim in his next outing when stopped in the first round by Malone for his only knockout loss in 115 fights. Malone was born in St. Paul in 1897. He won the Ohio version of the middleweight title in 1922, beating Downey on a 12-round decision. His win over O'Dowd gave him the New York claim, but he never bothered defending it, though he continued fighting until 1930. Jimmy Walsh, born in Newton, Massachusetts in 1886, won the vacant world bantamweight championship with a 15-round decision over Digger Stanley in 1905. He surrendered that crown the next year, challenging Abe Attell for the featherweight championship. He was knocked out in eight rounds but got another try in 1912 against Johnny Kilbane. That bout ended in a 12-round draw. The complete records of all three can be found in the 1986-87* Ring Record Book & Encyclopedia.

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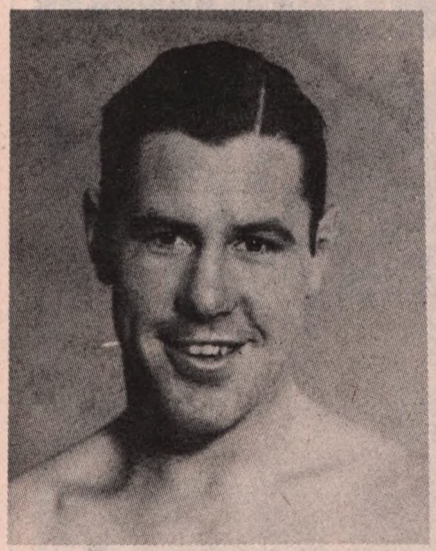
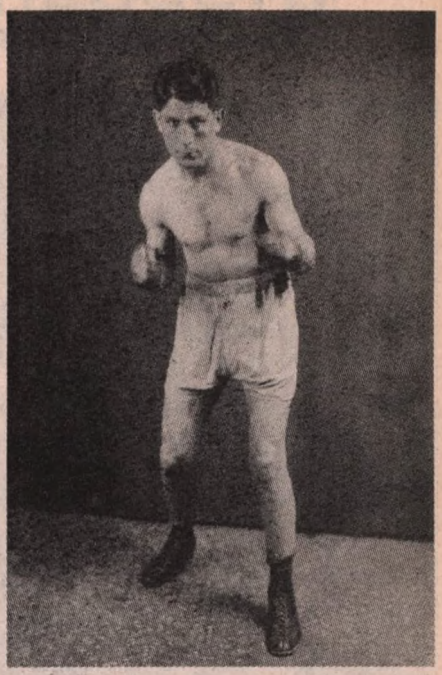
VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

by Charlie Spina

Lou Scozza



Jimmy Slattery



THIS MONTH WE TAKE A LOOK BACK at master boxer Jimmy Slattery. Today's generation may not recall Slattery, but during the early 1920s he was one of the classiest boxers around. He had grace, speed and a peculiar style of fighting with his hands at his sides which was misleading as he was very hard to hit.

Born of Irish parentage on August 25, 1904 in Buffalo, New York, Slattery was a handsome fellow with a devil-may-care attitude. At his peak, he was a master of manipulation in the ring. His upset victory over future light heavyweight champ Jack Delaney in 1924 was a major topic of conversation among boxing buffs of that era.

Slattery whipped Maxie Rosenbloom four of the six times they met, winning the NBA version of the 175-pound crown when he defeated "Slapsie Maxie" over 10 rounds on August 30, 1927. Slattery lost the belt to Tommy Loughran in his first defense via a 15-round decision, December 12, 1927.

In 1930, Slattery defeated Lou Scozza for the New York State Athletic Commission version of the light heavy crown. Three months later he was an ex-champ when Rosenbloom outpointed him over 15 rounds in Buffalo.

Other famous men Slattery faced were Harry Greb, Young Stribling, Tom Heeney, Young Fisher, Paul Berlenbach, Dave Shade, Johnny Risko, Jimmy Braddock, Pete Latzo, King Levinsky, Augie Ratner, Soldier Bartfield and Tony Marullo.

Slattery, who was managed by Paul "Red" Carr throughout his entire career, fought on until 1935, compiling a remarkable pro record of 114-13 with 48 KOs. He also fought two "no contests." Slattery took the final count August 30, 1960 in Buffalo.

VETERAN BOXER NOTES: In conjunction with the 1988 National Golden Gloves (May 1 thru 7) at the Host Farm Resort in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, there will be a reunion of past national amateur champions. Frank Cariello, president of the Pennsylvania GG, is trying to locate past GG champs to inform them of the reunion. Any former GG champs reading this column who are interested in attending, please contact Cariello: 600 North Surf Rd., Hollywood, Florida 33019. Or phone: 305-920-5124 . . . the 25th annual NVBA convention was held October 9 thru 12 at the Geo. Washington Lodge in Allentown, Pennsylvania. NVBA Rings from all parts of the country attended the convention, including Timothy "Buddy" Hayes, Molly Forman, Joe Nolan and Dom Uva from Ring 4 (Boston); Jack Campbell of Ring 72 (Northern California); Ralph Lake, Charlie Nevins, Joe Soloman and Johnny Morris from Ring 88 (Phila.); Billy Longo, Joe McHugh, Mike Mittman, Lou D'Arconte and Jim Spang from Ring 23 (Allentown); and Paul Venti, Willie Smith and Cal Cagni from Ring 20 (Kearny, NJ). Others in attendance were John Florio, Earnie Butler and yours truly. Chairman Jim Bus and his committee did a wonderful job and are to be commended. Former president Bernie Manhoff spoke about the effort to get the US Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp featuring the Tunney-Dempsey long count. And last but not least, president Lake and his slate of officers were reelected for another year . . . Ring 4 (Boston) held its 40th annual dinner/dance this past June at Anthony's Function Hall in Somerville, Mass. They honored Frankie Scire, the former amateur great who won a silver medal at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp, Belgium . . . In October, the American Association for the Improvement of Boxing held its "Boxerama VII" luncheon at the Rye Town Hilton Hotel in Rye, New York. Honored were Joe Frazier, Johnny LoBianco, Joe Dwyer, Davey Villar, Sean Kean, Eddie Hernandez, Larry Cole and Katherine Swercewski, AAIB scholarship winner.

THE LAST ROUND: Vic Cardwell, 59, leading welterweight contender during the early 1950s, died September 1, 1987, a victim of heart disease. Cardwell's pro record of 65-28 was highlighted by a victory over Carmen Basilio in 1950. Other "names" Vic fought included Ike Williams, Rocky Castellani, Kid Gavilan, Chico Vejar, Gil Turner and Johnny Bratton . . . Gus Dorazio (Gustave Vincolato), 70, former heavyweight contender from Philly who once fought Joe Louis, died September 19, 1987. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Boxing Hall of Fame. May Vic and Gus both rest in peace. □

ARMCHAIR AGONY

by "Flip" de Soundhoff

ABOUT A YEAR AGO, I HAD CABLE TELEvision installed. Until recently, both cable fight shows were on the same night, so there was no problem. I watched ESPN with Al Bernstein. But recently, ESPN shifted nights, allowing me to watch the other fight show, too. What luck! I didn't know what I was missing. So for those of you without cable TV, I taped the dialogue which appears below. Now, you too will know what you're missing.

Eat your hearts out.

"Welcome to the Thursday Night Fights. I'm your host, Hal Blabbert, and here with me is our expert color commentator, Andy Boredom.

"Andy, we have what shapes up to be a terrific main event with Ty Tanic, ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division by the WBC, taking on Lou Sitania in a battle for the Idaho cruiserweight championship."

"That's right, Hal. This is a crossroads fight for both. Tanic is ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division, and he views a win over Sitania as a chance to move up in the rankings, possibly as high as No. 22, which would, of course, put him in line for a shot at the cruiserweight title. Sitania has lost seven straight fights, but a win over Tanic, who is rated No. 28 by the WBC, would likely vault him right back into title contention.

"Sitania's record is kind of deceiving, too, Hal. At 210 pounds, he's really too light to be a heavyweight, but he's too heavy to be a cruiserweight. Maybe we could start a new division for those fighters. We could call it the Andyweight division."

"Well, Andy, that will be something to look forward to. But now, back to our upcoming bout between Ty Tanic, ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division according to the WBC, and Lou Sitania."

"Right, Hal. Tanic has certainly earned his No. 28 ranking in the cruiserweight division by the WBC with an Andy's Record of 7-2 with one KO. But while Tanic's Andy's Record is certainly impressive . . ."

"Impressive enough to get him ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division by the WBC."

"Right, Hal. But while Tanic's record is good enough to warrant him being ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division by the WBC, you can't overlook Sitania's chances. After all, Sitania has an Andy's Reach of six miles, which will make it pretty difficult for Tanic to get inside, even if he is ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division by the WBC."

"And Sitania has the extra incentive of facing the No. 28 cruiserweight in the world, according to the WBC, right Andy?"

"Right, Hal. And let's not forget the Idaho state championship, which is no small potatoes."

"And I'm sure that when Lou finds out about your new Andyweight Division, he'll be even more pumped up."

"I would think so, Hal. After all, he could become the first Andyweight champion in Andy's World of Boxing."

"Great, Andy. But before we get to tonight's edition of Andy's World of Boxing, we've got our upcoming cruiserweight fight for the Idaho state cruiserweight title between Lou Sitania and Ty Tanic, who is ranked No. 28 in the cruiserweight division by the WBC.

"There's the first bell. There's not much happening, yet. The fighters are just kind of going through a feeling out process."

"Well, Hal, it's like I said. Sitania's Andy's Reach is making it hard for Tanic to move inside. And Tanic, trying to protect his No. 28 cruiserweight ranking by the WBC, is understandably leery about taking any wild chances."

"There's the bell, Andy. Not much in that round, but stick around. Things are going to heat up in there. Here we go for Round Two. I'm not sure either one has thrown a punch yet, Andy."

"But that leaves us some extra time for Andy's World of Boxing, where we delve into Andy's Files and tell you about certain fighters' Andy's Records which, of course, includes Andy's Reach. And here for Andy's Interview is the former heavyweight champion of the world, Larry Holmes.

"Larry, what do you think of your chances against 'Catskill Thunder?'"

"Who?"

"Mike 'Catskill Thunder' Tyson, of course."

"Oh, you mean 'Iron Mike.'"

"Thanks, Larry."

"While you two were chatting, Tanic and Sitania were both disqualified for not fighting, Andy."

"That leaves some important questions unanswered, Hal. How will this affect Tanic's No. 28 cruiserweight ranking by the WBC? Should Sitania move down to the junior super middleweight class? And more importantly, the Idaho state title remains vacant."

"Well, that's our show for tonight. Hope you enjoyed it and thanks for making us the No. 28-ranked boxing show in the nation. Tune in next week for another trip to Andy's World of Boxing and some more news on Mike Tyson."

"That's 'Catskill Thunder,' Hal."

Wow, I can't wait. But next week I'll be more prepared to enter Andy's World of Boxing. I'm bringing some crayons, a coloring book, a little lunch box and a notepad. That way I can jot down some important information. For instance, how does one get to Andy's World? Does it have a zipcode? Are there taxes? And who collects all the garbage? □

WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Mike Tyson TKO7 Tyrell Biggs
(Retained WBA, WBC & IBF Titles)
Carl Williams TKO7 Mike Gans
Jerry Halstead W10 Wes Smith
Mike Rouse TKO4 James Reid
Francesco Damiani TKO6 Anders Eklund
Kevin Barry W12 Rudy Darno
Tim Witherspoon W10 Mike Williams
Patrick Lumumba W10 Alfonso Ratliff
James Tillis KO5 Dennis Jackson
Olian Alexander TKO8 Henry Hearns
Willie de Wit TKO5 Donnie Long
Adilson Rodrigues W10 Reggie Gross
Terry Mims W10 Leon Spinks
Frank Bruno KO8 Joe Bugner

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Prince Charles Williams TKO9 Bobby Czyz
(Won IBF Title)
Mike Sedillo W10 Randy Smith
Graciano Rocchigiani TKO3 Laheen Hamdy
Michael DeWar TKO10 Louis Coleman
Dennis Andries W10 Robert Folley
Dwight Davison TKO5 Carlos Tite

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Thomas Hearns KO4 Juan Roldan
(Won WBC Title)
Frank Tate W15 Michael Olajide
(Won IBF Title)
Sumbu Kalambay W15 Iran Barkley
(Won WBA Title)
Phillip Morefield TKO7 Tyrone McKnight
Robert Hines TKO10 Tony Montgomery
Milton McCrory W12 Herman Cavesuela
Matthew Hilton TKO2 Jack Callahan
(Retained IBF Jr. Middleweight Title)
Reginaldo dos Santos TKO6 Mario Martiniano
Michael Nunn TKO4 Darnell Knox
Francisco De Jesus W10 Leonel Ribeiro
Ricky Stackhouse W12 Kevin Moley
Darrin Van Horn W10 Juan Alonso Villa
Ricky Perry W10 John Ford
David Noel TKO4 Jose Castillo
Callisto Bavaresco W12 Angelo Liquori
Nino LaRocca TKO4 Boubekeur Cherif

WELTERWEIGHTS
Jorge Vaca Tech.Dec.7 Lloyd Honeyghan
(Won World Championship)
Felipe Canela W10 Derwin Richards
Al Long W10 Al Hamza
Takao Sakamoto KO6 Yoshiyuki Mizoguchi
David Gonzales TKO4 Martin Quiroz
Luis Carlos Dorea W10 Alfredo Ayala
James McGirt KO3 Eduardo Lugo
Tomas Molinares TKO4 Fernando Martinez
Mauro Martelli W12 Erwin Heiber
Othal Dixon KO4 Jimmy Paul
Ozzie O'Neal W10 Joe Frazier Jr.
Tyrone Trice KO3 Walter Cowens
Greg Dickson TKO10 Anthony Bryant

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Frank Tate (left) delivers a left hook to the side of Michael Olajide's head during their showdown for the vacant IBF middleweight title. Tate emerged victorious via a unanimous 15-round decision in a bout held in Los Angeles.

Simon Brown TKO5 Dexter Smith
Tex N'Kalankete KO3 Mohammed Kawoya

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Jose Luis Ramirez KO5 Cornelius Boza-Edwards
(Retained WBC Title)
Gert Bo Jacobsen TKO4 Claudio Nitti
Rocky Lockridge TKO10 Johnny de la Rosa
(Retained IBF Jr. Lightweight Title)
Primo Ramos KO2 Frankie Randall
Francisco Tomas Cruz TKO5 Oscar Benevides
Dave Rivello W10 Sammy Lee Young
Keith Stevenson TKO9 Alberto Mercado
Marcelle Daniels W10 Livini Rivas
Mauricio Stecca KO2 Silford Ashby

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Hector Lopez Tech.Dec.2 George Navarro
Marino Ramirez W10 Johnny Carter
James Pipps TKO5 Jose Gallegos
Danilo Batista W10 Valdivino Monteiro
Sidnei dal Revere TKO9 Ramon Ponce
Jeff Franklin W10 Tracy Harris Patterson
Tyrone Downs TKO2 Feliz Guzman

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Sugar Baby Rojas TKO4 Gustavo Ballas
(Retained WBC Super Flyweight Title)
Kaokor Galaxy TKO4 Constancio Dengla
Chiaki Kobayashi W10 Naoto Takahashi
Kaosai Galaxy KO3 Byong-Kwan Chon
(Retained WBA Jr. Bantamweight Title)
Elly Pical W15 Tae-Il Chang
(Won IBF Jr. Bantamweight Title)

FLYWEIGHTS
Richard Clarke W10 Prudencio Cardona
Hiroki Ioaka W12 Mai Thonburifarm
(Won WBC Strawweight Title)

ASK THE STARS

Ring Magazine's indefatigable editors track down the biggest V.I.P.s in boxing to get answers to readers' provocative questions. If you have a query for a fighter, manager, promoter or anyone in the fight game, write:

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RING MAGAZINE
130 WEST 37th STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018

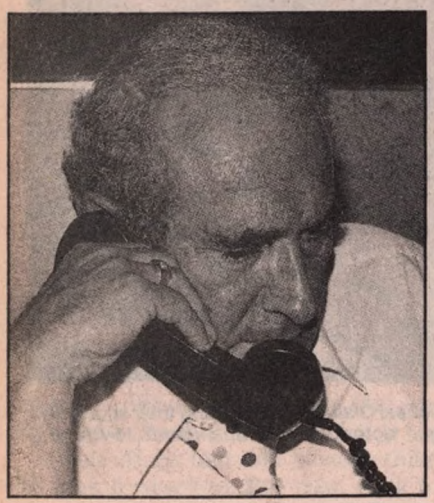
Questions should be of general interest and personal replies will not be given. ASK THE STARS is not a clearing-house for collectors. Requests for autographs, photographs, posters, T-shirts, hats etc. will be disposed of forthwith.

FOR MICHAEL SPINKS
World heavyweight champion

Q: Do you think famous fighters and other athletes can really stop underprivileged kids from using drugs by visiting schools and talking to them?

D.B., SHIP BOTTOM, NJ

A: Yes, I can relate to these kids. I fought back against poverty and other things. My mother was on welfare and she raised seven children and we were fatherless. Kids are my people.

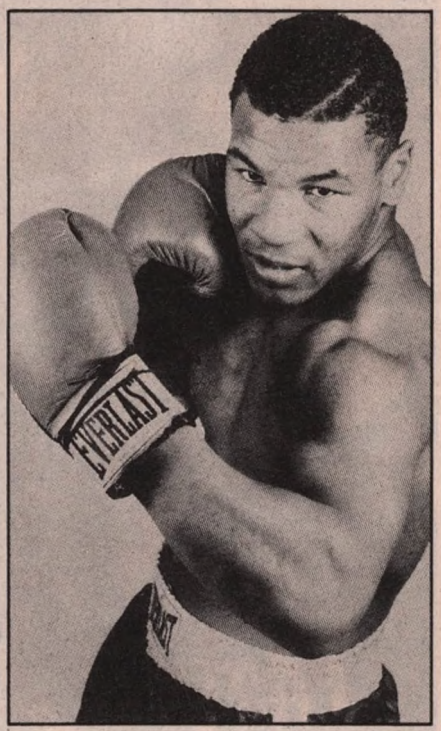


FOR GIL CLANCY
CBS-TV boxing analyst

Q: Where would you rate Mike Tyson among the great heavyweight champions of the past?

W.M., NEW YORK CITY

A: I can't rate him among the superstars, Louis or Ali, or even among the next level guys like Frazier, Marciano, Walcott or Dempsey. Right now, I rate him below Holmes and Ezzard Charles. He fits in more with Ingemar Johansson and Floyd Patterson. He would be made to order for a Holmes or Ali in his prime. Tyson-Frazier? Forget about it. It's not even a contest.



FOR MIKE TYSON
WBA, WBC and IBF heavyweight boss

Q: Now you've spanked Olympian Tyrell Biggs with ease, do you think there is anyone out there who can give you a tough fight?

G.B., GALLUP, NM

A: Not to be egotistical, but I don't think there is a man on this planet who can beat me.

FOR FLOYD PATTERSON
Former world heavyweight champion

Q: Do you box in the gym with your son Tracy?

G.V., YAZOO CITY, MS

A: Not any more. No matter who you box, you're bound to get hit, and I'm at the age where I don't want to gamble with being punchy.

FOR SUGAR RAY LEONARD
Former welterweight and middleweight champion

Q: Do you think your victory over Marvin Hagler ruined his career?

R.S., WAYCROSS, GA

A: No, all Marvin has accomplished has not gone down the drain just because he lost to me. He's still one of the greatest middleweights of all time.

FOR BOB LEE
President of the IBF

Q: How do you view the WBA's decision to go along with the WBC and make all of its title fights 12 rounds in length?

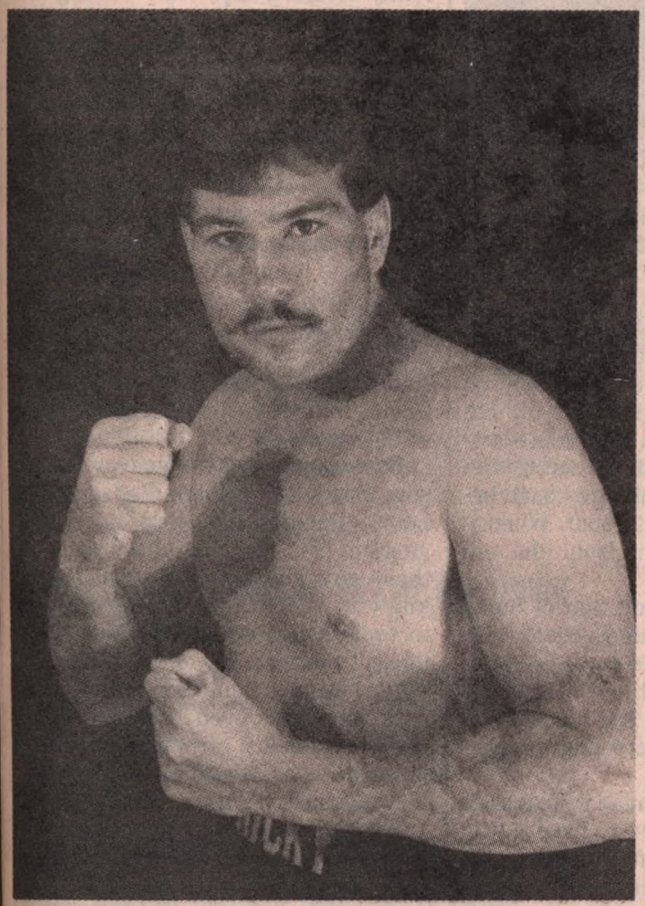
S.R., VENTNOR, NJ

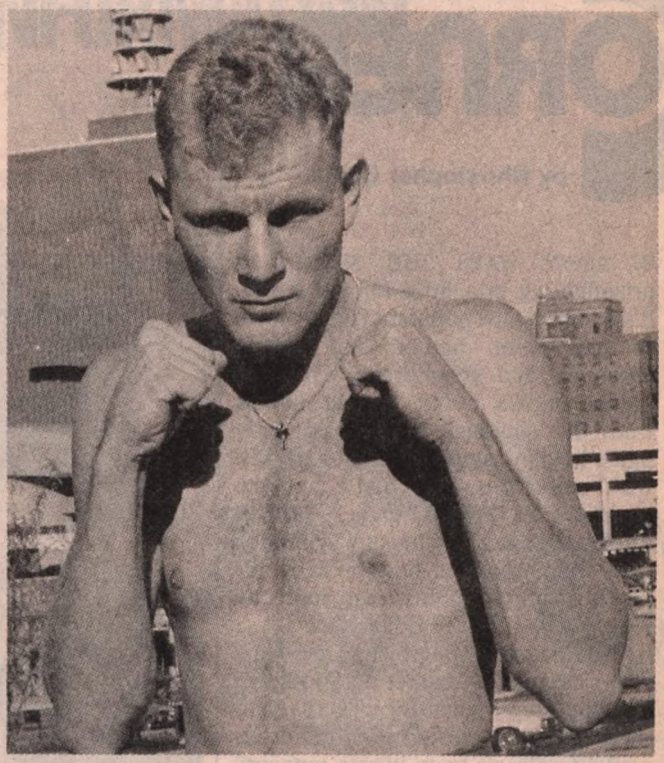
A: While other organizations have reduced the number of rounds for world title fights, we have no clear evidence that a 15-round bout is hazardous to a boxer's health. A 12-round fight is good for national or regional titles, but a 15-round world championship bout is the ultimate, a cut above the national or regional level.

BOXER SHORTS

NICKY WALKER
LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

DRINKING SODA ALMOST RUINED NICKY WALKER'S CAREER. Despite an impressive 33-2-2 (21KOs) pro record, injuries had frequently forced him to the sidelines. However, according to manager Ted Walker (no relation) those problems are behind him . . . "Nicky had a problem with broken bones going back several years. He's broken his hands and his ribs," explained Walker. "He used to sweat off a lot of weight in the gym trying to make middleweight and then drink a lot of soda water afterward. We finally found out the phosphates in the soda were killing the calcium in his bones." . . . Now, Walker is fighting at 168 and leaving the soda pop alone. As a result, he has reversed two of his previous setbacks, outpointing Danny Blake (who had busted his ribs and held him to a draw in '85) and stopping Charles "Machine Gun" Carter (who had decisioned him in '84) . . . A resident of Carson City, Nevada, Nicky is probably the most popular boxer in northern Nevada. His swarming, hooking style has made him a favorite at venues such as the Peppermill Inn & Casino in Reno and High Sierra Hotel/Casino in Stateline. However, he is scheduled to invade Europe this winter where he will test Finn Tarmo Uusivirta . . . Nicky, 26, is a busy man. Besides his boxing career, he is the maintenance foreman of a mobile home park . . . Manager Walker dreams of a shot at IBF super middleweight boss Chong-Pal Park for Nicky, but claims the Korean has priced himself out of the market. In the meantime, both men hope a victory over Uusivirta will open up new career opportunities overseas. □





DAN MURPHY
HEAVYWEIGHT

THERE IS NO MYSTERY IN NEBRASKA AS TO WHO THE BEST fighter in the state is . . . It's "Irish" Dan Murphy of Omaha. A 190-pounder with a reputed pro record of 15-1-1, he began boxing while in college as a political science major. His 56-7 amateur log included two mid-west Golden Gloves titles. Murphy's lone loss as a pro was a first-round defeat to Michael Simuwelu in West Germany in a bout which Dan claimed he suffered a broken hand . . . A rangy 26-year-old, Murphy has experienced difficulties getting bouts in Omaha. Consequently, he has done most of his fighting in other men's home towns against local favorites . . . "I've paid my dues," Murphy told *The Ring's* Nebraska correspondent, Bob Ruiz. "There are a lot of people here who feel I can go all the way, myself included." . . . The sandy haired boxer/puncher supports himself as an electrician while waiting for a major match which will hopefully put him in the big money . . . "So far, I haven't made a dime off boxing. But I want a world title and I know it's out there." . . . Dan, who is managed by Pete Susens and Bruce Strauss and trained by Bob Fate, would like a crack at Evander Holyfield sometime in '88 . . . Murphy is a dedicated, hard-working fighter with a swift left jab and a solid right. Known as "Mayhem Murphy" to midwest fans, Dan wears elaborate trunks made by his wife, Joanna . . . Recently, Top Rank has expressed an interest in establishing a promotional beachhead in the Cornhusker State and Murphy hopes this will mean he'll be fighting closer to home for a change. □

IN THIS CORNER

by Christopher Coats

WILL EDGINGTON (Trainer)

IN MANY WAYS THE SPORT OF prizefighting is a little known world. It's a subculture populated by all sorts of characters; heroes and losers, dreamers and scoundrels. What the public knows about boxing comes from the coverage given major title fights held in gambling casinos packed with celebrities. But that's not the backbone of the fight game. The real world of boxing is some guy in a dinky gym teaching a kid how to keep his hands up and his chin down. Someone like 59-year-old Will Edgington.

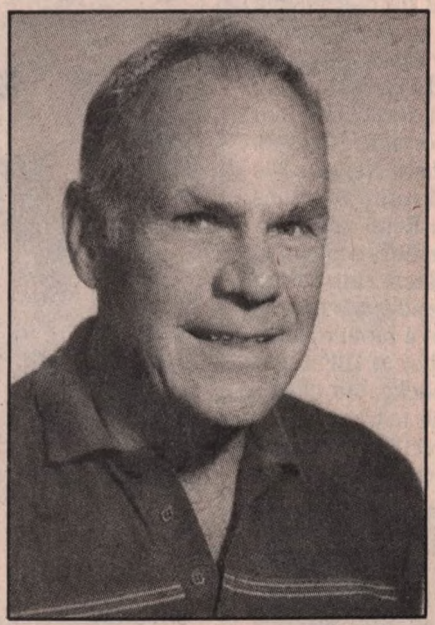
The first job Edgington had in boxing was carrying the bucket up and down the ring steps when he was 15. Over the years he's worked with hundreds of fighters. He's been both a manager and trainer, developed two or three fringe contenders and gone through some hard times.

Edgington's shining hour came while working Bobby Chacon's corner in Chacon's thrillers with Bazooka Limon and Cornelius Boza-Edwards. Both bouts were unbelievable slugfests. Both bouts were named *The Ring's* Fight of the Year. Both bouts were won by Chacon, thanks in no small part to Edgington's wonderful work in the corner. He patched Chacon together like a doctor laboring in a war zone.

Born and raised in Sacramento, California, Edgington grew up in a foster home. He learned how to play the piano and how to fight. By the time Will was 25, he'd been arrested twice (once for holding up a liquor store with a knife) and served four years behind bars.

"It's been 35 years since I got out of prison," said Edgington. "I'm not ashamed. I'm proud I straightened out my life."

He became a family man, earning a paycheck as a hod carrier, bartender and plumbing supply salesman. But if Edgington were given a choice of earning $30 a week working a fight or $1,000



a week doing something else, he'd jump at the 30 bucks.

In his youth, Edgington had about 45 amateur fights. He started as a skinny bantam and ended up a 190-pounder.

"In those days you stayed in the gym every day. Guys fought more often and they trained all the time," remembered Edgington. "You were taught the basics. A kid had to learn how to shadowbox before he could go on to the heavybag. He had to prove himself before he was allowed to spar. When it comes to boxing, I'm from the old school."

Edgington is six foot, thin of build, with clear eyes and ruddy cheeks. He looks a bit like the late actor Lee Marvin. He owns one suit and very rarely does it come out of the closet. Will prefers jeans, sneakers and a short sleeve shirt.

A hard-luck, decent man who doesn't wait 'til New Year's Eve to have a little fun, Edgington recently totaled his 1980 Cadillac, smashing into the rear end of a truck on the freeway.

"I like to drink vodka," he said, sounding like a boy talking about firecrackers. "I like it too much. I'm on the wagon now."

He's also engaged to a woman 24 years younger than himself.

About 15 years ago, Edgington had a fighter named Johnny Gordon who seldom took things seriously. One night, just before the opening bell, Edgington patted Gordon on the cheek, trying to get the fighter's mind on the business at hand. Suddenly, Gordon collapsed on the canvas as if he'd been shot. Edgington nearly went into shock and the referee became frantic. Then Gordon leaped to his feet with a cheerful grin and proceeded to win the fight.

A few months ago, Tony Lopez boasted he would knock out his upcoming opponent. Edgington, Lopez's trainer, said he wasn't sure Lopez could win the bout inside the distance. They made a bet: Edgington would shave off all his hair if Lopez won by knockout, and if not, Lopez would be the skinhead. Edgington had mixed feelings when Lopez flattened his opponent, but he shaved his head and currently wears a cap while waiting for his wavy white locks to grow back.

For the past year, Edgington has been going back to his alma mater, Folsom Prison, to teach boxing to the inmates. He never thinks about where he is until he leaves for home.

"Every day I walk through the prison gates, it makes me think," said Edgington. "As I get older, the more I want to be able to do some good things."

Edgington has a bent finger from a torn tendon and his hair is growing back slowly, but he doesn't feel old. And while he doesn't dwell in the past, he has a lot of respect for the fighters of days gone by.

"I grew up on fighters like Ray Robinson, Tony Zale, Willie Pep and Joe Louis, fighters like that," said Edgington. "I'm so hung up on some of those guys from the past that I don't know if I could really compare them to today's fighters and be fair. But it doesn't matter a lot to me, not really. When I watch a fight I don't think about past champions, even if it's a four-rounder with kids just turning pro. It's boxing and it's as important as any other fight because it's their lives."

With an attitude like that, Edgington would have stayed in boxing if there wasn't even $30 to be made. □

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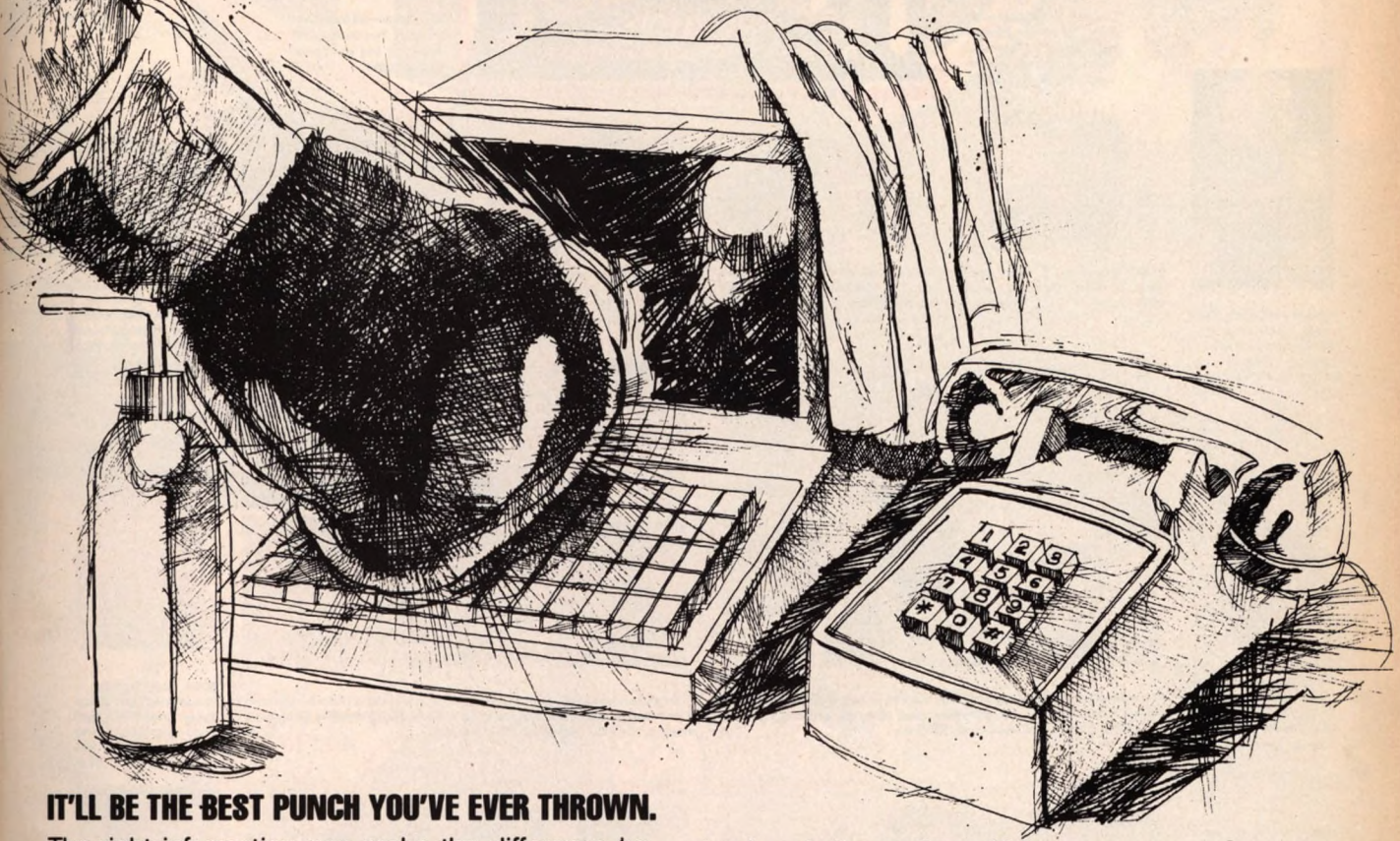

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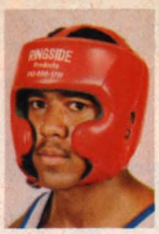

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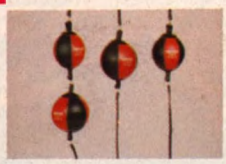

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